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Hafa Adai!

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DPL: Straight 55-year lease 'better'

The House chamber on Capital Hill was packed as a public hearing on legislation extending the maximum lease length for public lands was held last Monday.
ERWIN ENCINARES

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands suggests that the lease extension bill would be better off with lease agreements of 55 years straight, instead of an initial 40 years and the option to extend an additional 15 years.

In comments submitted Monday evening at the House Natural Resources Committee public hearing on Senate President Arnold I. Palacios' (R-Saipan) Senate Bill 20-35, DPL suggested that the Legislature amend the initial lease from 25 years to 55 years instead, but without the option to extend.

See DPL on Page 4

'No evidence missing tourist left Rota'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

There is no evidence that missing Chinese tourist Zhi Qiao left Rota from the island's ports, according to Rota Department of Public Safety director Eusebio Manglona.

Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a police officer found Qiao's rental car abandoned at the East Harbor or East Dock in Songsong last April 5.

See TOURIST on Page 4

NMI awaits passage of CW bill

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The CNMI anxiously awaits the passage of the new CW bill.

The U.S. House of Representatives was scheduled to discuss the new measure after it hit a snag a week ago. The lower chamber discussed the CW bill early this morning.

The bill was introduced by U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT), who also chairs the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) co-sponsors the bill.

According to a statement from Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios and House

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'Star Marianas is still here'

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Cape Air may have already left the Saipan-Rota route after United Airlines dropped its code-share agreement with the regional airline, but a different airline company, Star Marianas Aviation, is still here and taking up the slack.

Yet one can't blame Star Marianas for feeling like its services are being overlooked. Last Friday, when sev-

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Hyatt Regency Saipan and The Shack have joined the list of title sponsors of the Liberation Day.
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NATION
The Supreme Court ruled for a baker who wouldn't make a wedding cake for a gay couple.
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LIFE & STYLE
Melania Trump has reappeared after more than three weeks out of the public eye.
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Local

Japanese government honors Reusch's service

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Bonnie Reusch holds the decorative diploma of appreciation that she was awarded last Friday by the Japanese government at the Japanese Consul to the CNMI's office.
KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

The Japanese government honored one of the longest-serving employee of the Japanese consulate on Saipan last Monday, nearly 10 years after her retirement, with a conferment ceremony.

The Japanese consul general in Guam, Izumi Seki, joined Japanese consul to the CNMI, Kinji Shinoda, on Monday to confer The Order of the Sacred Treasure, Silver Rays to Vinnie Reusch.

The Order of the Sacred Treasure, Silver Rays consists of a decorative diploma of appreciation and a silver medal.

Reusch, a Danish citizen, came to Saipan back in 1978, serving as the office clerk of the Japanese consulate when the office was first established in 1980. She worked with the office until her retirement in August 2008.

According to Seki, Reusch served the office during its busiest period, a period when Japanese tourists and businesses were rapidly increasing in the CNMI and many foreigners who lived in the CNMI travelled through Japan, requiring transit visas.

"During such a busy period and time of a revolution in the CNMI, due to her contribution, the office had been able to manage to perform various kinds of duties and process in [an] accurate and speedy manner. I highly appreciate Mrs. Reusch's hard effort and great contribution," she said

Aside from issuing Japanese visas, Reusch also gained various knowledge related to the Consular Office duties, gave advice, and trained younger staff in the office. In such a way, she made additional contribution to the office.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan commended Reusch for her long service with the office in July 1998. Reusch was also awarded the Consul-General Commendation in February 2017.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that she was an indispensable staff in the office. This is the reason why the government of Japan has decided to confer her 'The Order of the Sacred Treasure, Silver Rays,'" said Seki.

Reusch said she was honored to get the award from the Japanese government after all her years of service.

"It has been a wonderful 28 years. It was an exciting job most of the time…I met a lot of wonderful people and worked with a lot of wonderful people and it was always good…I have a lot of wonderful memories and I'm glad that people appreciated me too," she said.

Present for Reusch's ceremony were a handful of her close confidants who witnessed her years of service to the Japanese government.

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Second illegal construction worker pleads guilty, gets time served

An overstaying tourist who was recently arrested for illegally working as a construction worker on Saipan pleaded guilty in federal court yesterday afternoon.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Youcai Li to 14 days of time served, ordered him to pay a $10 court assessment fee, and placed him on one year of supervised release.

Li will immediately be deported.

Benjamin Petersburg is the court-appointed counsel for Li. Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto appeared for the U.S. government.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Li entered Saipan on March 18, 2018, lying to a U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspector that his purpose was for "tourism." In fact, his purpose for entering included his intention to find work and reside in the U.S. beyond the time allowed by his conditional parole status.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents arrested Li and Shubiao Niu along the road near Moonlight Shopping along Beach Road in Chalan Kanoa two weeks ago.

Niu, pleaded guilty last Thursday to the same offense. Niu was sentenced to six days of time served in jail. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

'SHEFA has alternative funding'

A lawmaker, who previously voted against the passage of a bill to extend by two more years the transition period for poker parlors to relocate, now says that alternative funding for the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program has been identified.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said a bill has already been passed in the 20th Legislature that appropriates $1.5 million to the program from the annual casino application fee, or Public Law 20-10.

"We can increase this number if the need arises," he said, adding that he authored P.L. 20-10.

"My voting record shows that I have voted against previous legislation to allow poker parlors any form of extension to remain in the villages," he said.

H.L.B. 20-48 sought to rezone certain zoning districts on Saipan to, in effect, allow the operation of poker parlors.

"I stated then that the transition period of four years was more than enough time for poker operators to move out of the villages," said Demapan, referring to a previous bill that drives out the poker parlors from villages after an initial transitional period of two years that was later extended by another two years.

"I still maintain that position," continued Demapan. "I would have voted against H.L.B. 20-48 and my colleagues know that." ***(Erwin Encinares)***

*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is 2,500. While supplies last. Mazda3i Sport – Total price is $18,995. Financed at 2.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of $272.38 OR $125 per paycheck based on a 20% down-payment and 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $16,342.80. CX-5 Sport – Total price is $24,995. Financed at 2.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of $358.41 per month or $165 per paycheck based on a 20% down-payment and 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is $21,504.60.

36 car accidents in two weeks

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Police responded to about 36 accidents within the span of May 21, 2018, up to Monday, June 4, 2018. That has prompted the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to ask the public to drive carefully, especially this rainy season.

According to Department of Public Safety spokesperson Jackie Rae Shepard, many of the accidents in the last few days included collisions involving parked cars as well as collisions with other stationary objects.

"The recent number of vehicular accidents is a paramount concern for Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres and his administration. Gov. Torres extends his heartfelt condolences to the victims and reminds the community to exercise caution and vigilance when driving out on the roads, particularly during this rainy season," said press secretary Kevin Bautista.

"Words and public reminders are only the first step. Ensuring public safety and the wellbeing of our residents has been and always will be a primary responsibility of the governor and his administration. DPS has already been engaged to actively crack down on impaired and distracted driving, and our law enforcement officers in both DPS and DFEMS have done a good job at directing traffic at accident scenes and responding to life-threatening cases," he added.

Bautista said that no one should accept impaired driving "and it's everyone's business to stop impaired drivers from getting behind the wheel."

"This rainy season, Gov. Torres encourages the Commonwealth to be vigilant and careful on the roads. Buckle up, pay attention to speed limits and road conditions, and never drive impaired. Our law enforcement is also here to lend a helping hand."

'Impacts of proposed CJMT program being reviewed anew'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Navy is now conducting a second National Environmental Policy Act review to assess the environmental impacts of the proposed CNMI Joint Military Training program, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

The assessment includes the cumulative effects of all of the training the Marines would receive in the CNMI from relocating Marines from Okinawa to Guam, according to Joshua P. Wilson, trial attorney of the DOJ Environmental & Natural Resources Division.

Wilson is counsel for the U.S. Navy, Navy Secretary Richard V. Spencer, U.S. Defense, and Defense Secretary James Mattis, who are being sued by four environmental groups for the decision to relocate 5,000 U.S. Marines from Okinawa to Guam and to conduct live-training on Tinian and Pagan.

The Tinian Women Association, Guardians of Gani, Pagan Watch, and the Center for Biological Diversity are suing the defendants for alleged violation of NEPA and Administrative Procedure Act.

In a motion for summary judgment filed before the U.S. District Court for the NMI last Friday, Wilson said the NEPA claim is unfounded because these two major federal actions have independent utility, and because the Navy is now studying the cumulative impacts of all training proposed to be conducted in the CNMI.

Wilson said the groups allege that the defendants violated NEPA when the Navy issued its final supplemental environmental impact statement for the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to Guam because the Navy did not also study in that same environmental review the impacts of a separate and non-final proposal to conduct a comprehensive joint military training program in the CNMI.

He said plaintiffs allege that the Marine relocation and CJMT program are "connected actions" or, in the alternative, "cumulative actions" whose "cumulative impacts" must be studied together in a single environmental impact statement.

Wilson, however, stated that the record shows that the Marine relocation to Guam is directed by a formal agreement with Japan, and holds diplomatic and strategic significance independent from whatever long-term training Marines in Guam might receive in the future.

He noted that the record also shows that the Navy fully evaluated through a comprehensive NEPA review and full environmental impact statement the effects of the training that the Navy determined the relocating force would need on Guam and the CNMI.

The DOJ attorney said these two separate, major federal actions are not related.

He said the Marines in Guam are among those forces that will participate in the training offered by CJMT, should that program proceed and be implemented.

"But the Marine relocation has clear independent utility from the training upgrade proposed under CJMT and will proceed regardless of the ultimate fate of CJMT," he said.

Wilson said the U.S. and Japan have determined as a matter of diplomacy and allied military strategy to station Marines in Guam instead of Okinawa.

He said the Navy's decision to limit the scope of the relocation EIS to the environmental effects of the relocation—and the training necessary to effect that relocation—rather than the full measure of potential, desired training in the Western Pacific, is well within agency discretion.

He said the Navy is meeting NEPA's core concerns by fully studying—through two comprehensive NEPA reviews and two environmental impact statements—the total environmental impacts to the CNMI of the Marine relocation and the proposed CJMT program.

The groups recently filed a motion for summary judgment. Through their counsel, they stated that if thousands of U.S. Marines are stationed on Guam, the northern two-thirds of Tinian will be blanketed with mortar and artillery bombardment.

Amphibious landing craft will invade Tinian's beaches, destroying precious corals, said David L. Henkin of Earthjustice and Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds, who are counsels for the groups.

CW

From Page 1

Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan), they, along with the Chamber and the rest of the islands, anxiously wait for the passage of H.R. 5956, or the NMI U.S. Workforce Act of 2018.

"We continue to remain hopeful for its passage in the House, then the Senate with the assistance of Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)," Palacios said. Murkowski previously introduced in the U.S. Senate S. 2325, a bill that sought to reset the CW cap for fiscal year 2019 to 13,000; provide additional validity to long-time CW workers; and extend the CNMI transitional period, along with programs under it such as the CW program and the E-2C investor program, to fiscal year 2029.

"…I understand this bill requires bicameral [and bipartisan] support, so any help would be [valuable] in making sure we have a product," said Demapan, recognizing that the bill calls for a two-thirds vote in the U.S. Congress since it would be voted under suspension of the rules. According to a previous statement from Sablan, bills voted under suspension of the rules are usually not controversial and are done through a voice vote rather than a roll call vote.

"…The bill is intended to move, and that is a positive step toward [having] a CW program in place for the Commonwealth," added Demapan.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) issued a similar statement over the weekend, expressing his appreciation for the movement of the bill.

S. 2325 sailed through U.S. Senate but hit a wall in the U.S. House after it was ruled that the bill was unconstitutional since the U.S. Senate amended the bill to include an anti-fraud fee, which was ruled a revenue.

According to the U.S. Constitution, only the U.S. House may introduce legislation that generates revenue.

"Our economy requires a workforce to sustain it and we need the CW-1 program. We have businesses already affected with the rejections of the CW-1 visa applications submitted. Some businesses have made and continue to make tough decisions in continuing their operations," said Velma Palacios.

The CW-1 program, which has a cap that is determined every fiscal year by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, was set at 4,999 for fiscal year 2019. USCIS claims the cut is in line with the administration's intention to sunset the program, which is slated for Dec. 31, 2019 according to federal law. USCIS set the cap for fiscal year 2017 at 12,998 and 9,998 for fiscal year 2018.

STAR

From Page 1

eral media outlets published the disheartened statements of CNMI officials about the absence of air service to Rota, Star Marianas president Shaun Christian pointed out that there are still daily Saipan-Rota, Rota-Saipan, and Saipan-Guam flights.

"Watching all the media coverage regarding Cape Air's departure, I'm a little surprised that the local leadership and [the Marianas Visitors Authority] doesn't seem to understand…" he said.

According to Christian, Star Marianas is a commuter regional terminal "…meaning we can (and do) operate flights on a scheduled basis. …Our airplanes are capable of flying directly between Guam and Saipan," he added.

Many speculate that Star Marianas chooses its aircrafts to accommodate the training of pilots who are still garnering experience, but Christian said that is not the case. Rather, it is to accommodate a smaller market and for its versatility, he said.

"We didn't select our aircraft type because that's all we know how to operate, but because the markets we fly into often don't have enough customers to fill up a larger aircraft. In addition, they do not require TSA screening, meaning shorter wait times at the airport," he said.

Aside from daily flights to Rota, Star Marianas also operates direct charter flights between Saipan and Guam for medical referral patients.

Star Marianas, based on Tinian, is the only airline based in the CNMI and employs over 125 people across Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam.

"We carry more than 85 percent of the total air cargo into and out of Rota…We operate nearly 200 flights every day, making us one of the busiest airlines in terms of movements in the Pacific," he said.

Christian also touched base on the many issues, locally, that make airline operations very difficult, to outright discouraging.

"…. There are many charges imposed on airlines here that are not charged in other places. We would love to open a constructive dialog on how certain polices could be implemented or changed that would encourage more flights and more airlines to serve the region," he said.

United Airlines still flies the Guam-Saipan route but using its own jet and only once a day.

TOURIST

From Page 1

Manglona said he has no other details yet as it was their operations officer who handles the investigation.

Saipan Tribune learned that the 27-year-old Qiao rented the vehicle from Budget Car Rental.

DPS Saipan spokesperson Jacqueline Rae Shepard said there was no update on the case as of yesterday.

According to the tourist's father, Qiao left China alone last March 6 for a vacation on Saipan. Upon his arrival, Qiao checked into the GT Guest House in Garapan. He checked out last March 25.

Qiao maintained contact with his parents in China and notified them that he was going to Rota on April 4.

The parents flew to Saipan last May 22 to look for their son. The father reported the matter to DPS headquarters in Susupe last May 30.

DPL

From Page 1

Rep. Alice Igitol (R-Saipan) chairs the committee.

"Should you be inclined to increase lease terms to 55 years, we recommend making it straight 55 years (on par with private land leases) instead of 40 [years] plus an extension of 15 [years]," said DPL Secretary Marianne Teregeyo in her written comments on the bill.

S.B. 20-35 seeks to extend the maximum initial lease term from 25 years to 40 years, allowing for a maximum of 55 years, including the 15 years extension if granted.

"This way, investors can plan for a 55-year horizon, which more fully addresses the concern of investors stated in the bill," Teregeyo said, referring to investors' feedback on the thought of "having to fight for an extension" as a deterrence to further invest, after having already developed the property.

Teregeyo cited "little added benefit" for DPL and those of Northern Marianas descent if the initial term of 25 years is changed to 40 years, and that, at the end of 55 years, the CNMI will be faced with the same situation of "investors wanting longer leases again to 'recoup' their investments."

She pointed out that public land lease terms of 25 years, with an opportunity to extend for an additional 15 years with the approval of the CNMI Legislature, was designed to give investors time for their investment to generate sufficient returns as well as a mechanism to allow the CNMI to re-evaluate the situation for a new leasing decision after the initial 25-year term. She said this has been so since the enactment of the CNMI Constitution back in 1978.

"The benefit of re-evaluating at 25 years is significant because, at that point, there still remains sufficient useful life in the facility for the lessee to want a 15-year extension, which provides us some leverage to condition the approval of the extension on a certain level of improvements being made on the property as well as performance standards on the lease," Teregeyo explained, adding that the benefit of re-evaluating after the initial term might be lost if investors lose interest in gaining a 15-year extension on a 40-year-old facility with "little remaining useful life."

Mathewson, 14 other prisoners sue DOC officials

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

William Kapono Mathewson, a farmer/fisherman who is serving a 15-year prison term for stabbing a physician with a fishing spear on Rota, together with 14 other inmates, is suing Department of Corrections Commissioner Vincent S. Attao and Division of Corrections director Gregory Castro.

Mathewson and the 14 other prisoners, through counsel Jeanne H. Rayphand, claim that Corrections has failed to provide them with medical care, mental healthcare, dental care, and eye.

The 14 other inmates are Steven Aguon, Ray Anthony Babauta, Joseph Barto, Ji-Jing Borja, George Cruz, Donald Hocog, Nena Langu, Wei Lin, Joaquin Lizama, Daniel Mauricio, Carlos Ramangmau, Alfredo Reyes, Price Shoiter, and Xinqiang Zheng.

The inmates are suing Attao and Castro for alleged cruel and unusual punishment by not providing them with adequate medical care and mental health treatment, and subjecting them to solitary confinement.

The 15 inmates alleged that Attao and Castro subjected them to excessive solitary confinement, in violation of the 8th and 14th amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

The plaintiffs want the U.S. District Court for the NMI to declare Attao and Castro of having failed to provide adequate medical care, mental healthcare, dental care, and eye care to them and other prisoners, in violation of the 8th and 14th amendments.

The inmates also want a court declaration that they were subjected to excessive solitary confinement, in violation of the 8th and 14th amendments.

Rayphand, of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., asked the court to provide Mathewson psychiatric care and treatment and medication; psychiatric care and treatment for Aguon and medical care for shoulder pain, heart condition, and tonsillitis, braces for joints, medications for diabetes and mental health and blood sugar tests for diabetes; dental care and medications for back/spinal pain for Babauta; and blood sugar and blood pressure checks, dental care, and medicine for Barto;

For Borja, Rayphand is asking for psychiatric care, treatment, counseling, and to have him placed in an "open bay" and not solitary confinement, medications and renewal of prescriptions for medications on a regular basis, dental care, and payment of medical/dental care incurred for repair of injury to hisfront teeth.

She asked the court to provide Cruz eye care and Hocog dental care and medical evaluation and treatment for injuries and pain in his feet.

The lawyer asked the court to provide Langu medical evaluation and treatment of back pain, and for Lin medical care for head injury and continuing pain, and medication.

She asked the court to provide Lizama dental care such as root canal and dentures, blood sugar checks and medication, and medical care for severe back pain and pain in his elbows and knees; and eye care.

She requested the court to provide Mauricio eye care for an eye condition that causes pain, blurry vision, and headache.

Rayphand asked the court to provide Ramangmau medical care and medications for seizures, medical care for injuries received when having seizure, and medications, and dental care.

She asked the court to provide Reyes eye care and dental care, and Shoiter with dental care, medical care for knee and shoulder pain; and eyeglasses, and medications.

She asked the court to provide Zheng medical treatment for his injured knees, and eyeglasses.

Rayphand asked the court to order the defendants to implement a plan to eliminate risk of harm that prisoners suffer due to inadequate medical care, mental health care, dental care, and eye care.

Jerry Ray, an inmate, also filed last week a separate lawsuit in federal court against Attao, Castro, and four other DOC officials, suing for allegedly subjecting him to solitary confinement and isolation and failing to provide him mental healthcare.

Jerry Ray, through Rayphand, is suing the defendants for allegedly subjecting him to cruel and unusual punishment, and providing him inadequate mental health treatment.

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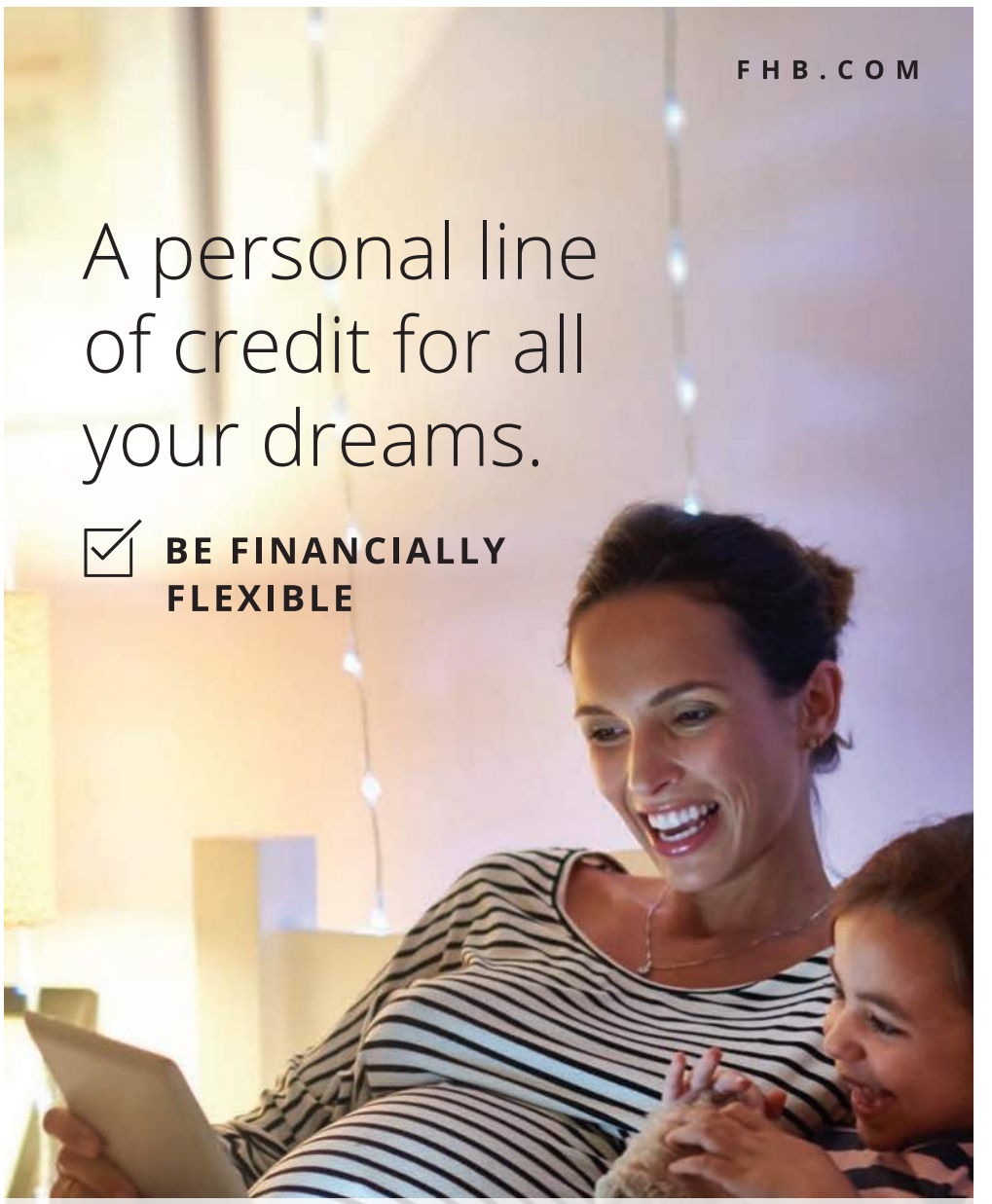

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HK students check out Saipan

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Students from a Hong Kong-based university visited the CNMI Legislature on Monday as part of a two-day field trip to Saipan.

About 20 students visited the House of Representatives chamber and met with a handful of legislators.

"The purpose of our trip is to understand the culture, the history, and the current issues on Saipan," said Allan Au, a professional consultant for the School of Journalism and Communication at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. "This is a study trip is organized by our…college and sponsored by TanHoldings."

TanHoldings Corp. is one of the leading companies in the Commonwealth and operates businesses in Guam, the CNMI, and other parts of Micronesia and Palau.

Last Monday, the visiting students were able to ask lawmakers about current issues and hot topics such as the CNMI's struggles with labor, drugs, and more.

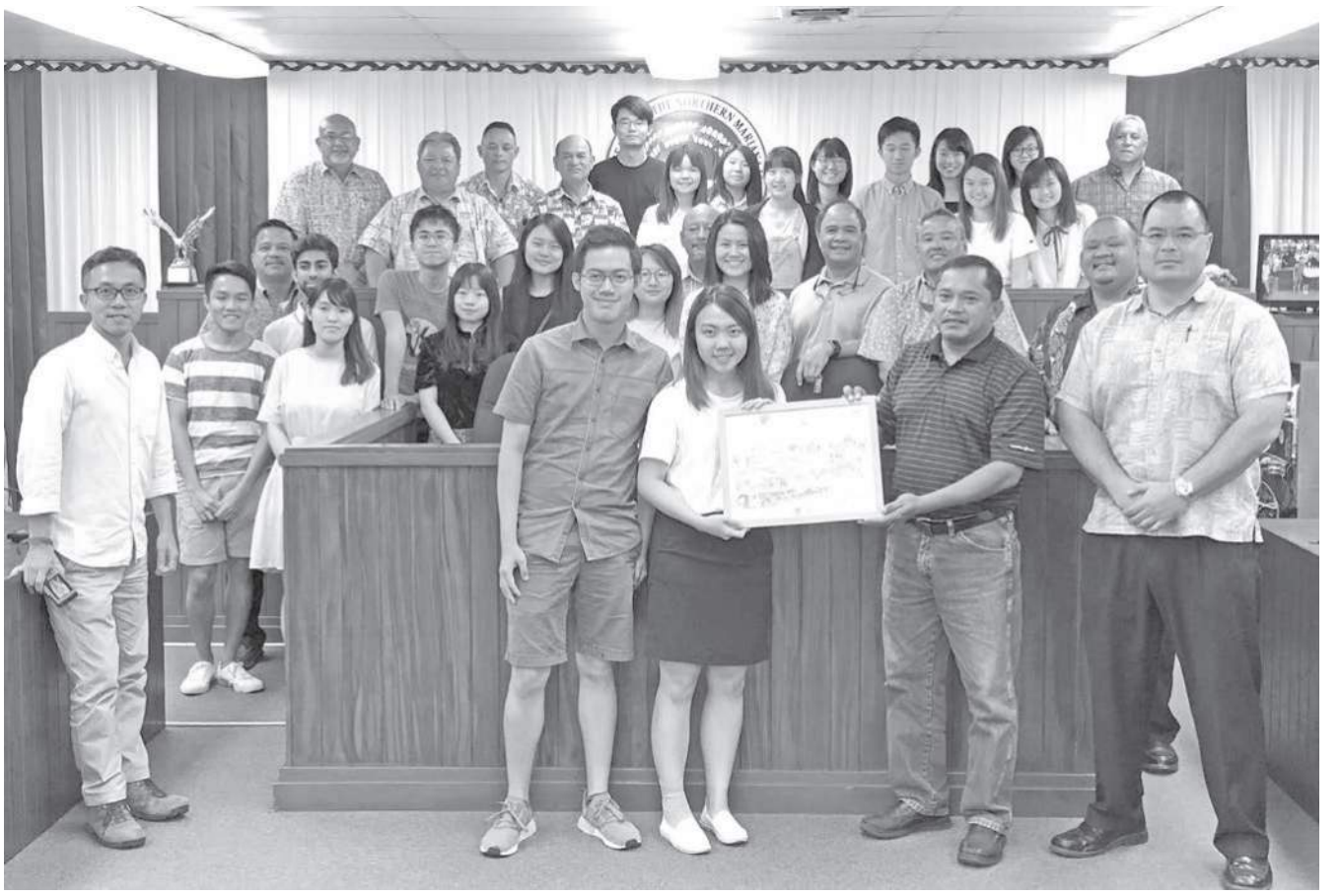
"In Hong Kong, we are a part of China but at the same time we are not China. We encounter many problems and many controversies, but at the same time we also benefit from our relationship with China. Somehow, Hong Kong is similar to Saipan," Au said.

Hong Kong is a former British colony that was handed back to China in 1997 after an agreement between Britain and China in 1984 allowed China to govern Hong Kong, but under the principle of "one country, two systems."

The principle allows Hong Kong a high level of autonomy, but China takes care of its foreign and defense affairs.

Au believes that Hong Kong and Saipan are similar in terms of having a relationship with what are considered global superpowers: China and the United States.

"The Chinese government can decide who comes to Hong Kong and the number of people coming into Hong Kong, so this is the source of issue in recent years," said Au, comparing Hong Kong to Saipan. "The political status brings us together."



Members of the 20th CNMI Legislature meet with students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong on Monday. ERWIN ENCINARES

Taisacan, 36 others move to senior high

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Sabina Leann Barcinas Taisacan led 36 of her classmates who will be moving up to 9th grade next school year, with Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior/Senior High School having its promotion ceremony on Monday.

Taisacan, the class valedictorian, also received the CNMI State Board of Education and Rota Mayor's awards.

Taisacan, in her valedictory address, said it has been her dream to finish at the top of her class. "It is such an honor to be standing before you all today…This has always been a dream of mine since I was in 6th grade. But, to be honest, I never thought my dream could come true. I wasn't always the best nor the brightest student in middle school. I've never received as much…awards than others," added Taisacan.

She sometimes felt that she wasn't good enough even after bringing home other awards. "I remember bringing whatever award I had home and showing them to my parents."

SABINA LEANN BARCINAS TAISACAN
Valedictorian

SAMANTHA ROSE QUITUGUA MANGLONA
Salutatorian

"Even though they said I did a 'good job,' I still felt like a failure because there was always this thought replaying in my head, saying, 'You're not good enough, you're not smart enough, you're too dumb to do anything right.' I tried my best not to believe that recurring thought, but sometimes I would be compared to others, so I eventually gave in to that thought."

Taisacan overcame her insecurities with the help of her homeroom teacher and friends. "I started becoming strong… even though many still made assumptions and doubted me. I still had my dark days. It took me a long time to realize that there was a rainbow, a rainbow of happiness."

Class salutatorian Samantha Rose Quitugua Manglona, who received the Commissioner of Education award, said the years that they would spend in high school will be crucial. "Discovering oneself can be scary and intimidating when you have expectations coming at you from every corner. Expectations of having the perfect job in the future, straight A's, and the list goes on," she said. "More than ever, it is important that we listen to ourselves. Trust that you know what makes you happy. Success can only be defined by you."

Manglona also received the science, Chamorro Carolinian Language Heritage Studies, and agriculture subject awards, while Cevon Atalig Calvo was honored with the Principal's Leadership award as well as the best student in English language arts and social studies.

Xeayda Jahzara Hocog Manglona (math and physical education), Zolekha Liz Sayal Dewan (computer), Alfernee Zett Cruz Manglona (Leadership Corpus), Immaculate Marie Mesngon Maratita (agriculture), Daicia Manglona Charfauros (performing arts), Kirido Barcinas Manglona (honorable mention for English language arts), Jeston Manglona Cabrera (honorable mention for English language arts and math), and Logan Zade Barcinas Taitano (Perseverance Award 16th Rota Municipal Council) were the other students honorees.

Territories can now apply for coral reef grants

WASHINGTON—Doug Domenech, U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs, announced that the Coral Reef and Natural Resources Initiative is now open for applications from the U.S. insular areas.

The goal of the initiative is to improve the health of coral reef ecosystems and other natural resources in the U.S. insular areas for their long-term economic and social benefit. Priority will be given to projects that help the insular areas address a variety of threats to coral reef ecosystems, research into how sea level rise impacts coral reefs, and to combatting and eradicating aquatic and terrestrial plant, insect, and animal invasive species.

"Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and I are both committed to protecting the natural resources of the island areas for their short and long-term benefit," said Domenech. "Applications this year will be prioritized to protect coral reefs and combat invasive species."

Applications for 2018 funding are encouraged and will be considered from insular government entities, educational institutions, or non-profit organizations whose grant proposal directly benefits the four U.S. territories or three freely associated states, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.

The deadline for submissions through grants.gov using CFDA# 15.875, is July 6, 2018. ***(PR)***

Over 200 tour guides now certified

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As of Monday, the Marianas Visitors Authority, in partnership with Northern Marianas College, has officially certified over 200 tour guides.

The tour guide certification program that was launched in late October of 2017 has so far certified a total of 226 tour guides across Saipan.

During the Rotary Club of Saipam's weekly meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, tour guide certification program manager Kuen-Hee Han said a total of 226 badges and certificates have already been issued as of June 4; a total of 322 applicants signed up for the program. That leaves a total of 96 applicants still need to be certified.

"We had a couple of people who haven't passed or haven't came into my office yet, or who are still on the waiting list," she said.

According to Han, the requirements to apply for the program is knowledge of basic CNMI history, and basic knowledge of how to conduct safe tours.

"One of the things we really emphasize is the history…to disseminate the correct information because we don't want wrong information out there," she said.

When asked if the tour guide certification program could play a role in ensuring fewer tourist deaths in the CNMI, Han said that that is the goal.

"What I have seen is that most of these accidents have happened with no tour guides available. If you're with our certified tour guides…they won't even take clients to Forbidden Island or places like that," she said.

Han said that one of the biggest challenges the program currently faces is enforcement or lack of it. "But we have had great support from…everyone. Every government agency that I have talked to have been waiting for this program to be launched and they're all for it," she said.

"Everyone has a claim, everyone is a stakeholder here, so it's not just…MVA's program," she added.

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands has also supported the tour guide certification program by mandating all tour agency partners to have their guides undergo the program.

"I presented at HANMI last week…and what they told me is that, if you're a HANMI member or want to work with HANMI hotels, then you have to be a certified tour guide…They won't allow any tour guide to pick up any of their clients if they're not certified," said Han.

The tour guide certification program is also in the process of expanding to Tinian and Rota.

"We were looking into that but because they are so remote…the training is going to take a little bit…but what we are trying to do is get people listed so we know that these guys are working legally," she said.

For interested individuals who want to be certified as tour guides, applications are available at the MVA office and the fee is $50. The classes are scheduled at night and students must complete a total of 20 hours of the program to be certified.

NMC sets NMI-wide Cash for College workshops

Students who are looking for help in finding money to pay for college are encouraged to attend the upcoming Cash for College workshops hosted by Northern Marianas College.

Participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, CNMI Scholarship, Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, Tinian Municipal Scholarship, Rota Municipal Scholarship, and the TEACH Grant.

Workshop participants can also have their financial aid documents notarized and photocopied, free of charge.

The Cash for College event will be held on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian on the following dates:

- June 8: Rota NMC campus, from 9am to 1pm
- June 16: Saipan, Building A, NMC As Terlaje campus, from 9am to 12pm
- June 20: Tinian NMC campus, from 9am to 1pm

Staff members from the college's Office of Admissions and Records will be present.

Those who participate in the workshop will qualify to have their NMC application fee and placement test fees waived for the upcoming fall 2018 semester—a saving of up to $75.

It is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification, an official transcript from high school (at least three copies), copy of 2016 and 2017 1040, copy of 2016 and 2017 W-2 (if not filing), and proof of CNMI residency, including proof of continuing residency. Applicants for SHEFA should bring a valid U.S. passport or a voter registration card.

For additional information, contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at 237-6792 or email daisy.propst@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

SAVE goes completely paperless

WASHINGTON—Starting June 1, benefit-granting agencies using U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements) Program can no longer submit paper versions of Form G-845, Verification Request.

Previously, agencies submitted paper forms to request immigration status verification and for additional verification requests. Now all agencies must submit their requests and institute additional verification electronically, drastically reducing case processing time.

"Without the use of paper during the verification process, SAVE will improve its efficiencies by reducing mailroom workloads and the time spent receiving and reviewing paper documents," said Tammy Meckley, associate director of the Immigration Records and Identity Services Directorate at USCIS.

The initiative is part of a larger effort to eliminate paper-based forms, as the agency transitions to online submission of benefit requests. The SAVE Paperless Initiative will eliminate 170,000 paper form submissions and returned responses annually, reducing resource costs and postal fees. Additionally, the transition to a paperless environment will reduce case completion time from 20 days to less than five days. ***(USCIS)***

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Hyatt, Shack join list of LibDay title sponsors

Hyatt Regency Saipan and The Shack have joined the growing list of title sponsors for the 2018 Liberation Day celebration in The Marianas.

Raffle prize winners for the annual celebration will have the opportunity to enjoy a complimentary night stay at the Executive Suite, Sunday brunch for two, and other prizes from Hyatt Regency Saipan. The company recently donated $5,000 worth of hotel night stays, buffets, Club Elan passes, and massages.

"We are extremely grateful to Hyatt Regency Saipan and The Shack for their title sponsorship of 2018 Liberation Day," said 2018 Liberation Day committee chair Joe E. Ayuyu, Jr. "As a longstanding member of our Commonwealth community, Hyatt continues be an active and generous participant of this and many other local events. We also appreciate the support of The Shack as one of our small businesses that has a big heart when it comes to supporting the community. We're very grateful to have both of them as partners this year."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa, front center, and staff present a title sponsorship donation to Saipan Mayor David Apatang and members of the 2018 Liberation Day Committee on May 22, 2018.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Owners and crew of The Shack present a tile sponsorship donation to Saipan Mayor David Apatang and members of the 2018 Liberation Day Committee on May 17, 2018.

The Shack has also stepped up to donate over $5,000 worth of prizes, including their popular Plate of the Day, smoothies, drinks, and cash cards.

"We are thrilled to be a title sponsor of one of the year's largest celebrations and thankful to all who make this celebration possible," The Shack stated in making their donation.

The other title sponsors this year are Saipan & Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, McDonald's, *Marianas Variety*, TanHoldings Corp., Ana Corp., Imperial Pacific International LLC, Matson, Tournament of Champions, IT&E, Triple J, and Alter City Group.

Additional sponsors include Coca-Cola, Bridge Capital, J.C. Tenorio Ent., Korean community of Saipan, Docomo Pacific, VaprSpot, PDI, Bank of Guam, Sparkle Water, Coral Ocean Golf Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, G4S, KKMP, Roil Soil, I Love Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Bank of Hawaii, Cha, Saipan Travel, and Spicy Thai.

Supporters include Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, Department of Public Safety, Division of Sanitation, Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco Control, and Marianas Visitors Authority.

The Liberation Day festivities, presented by the Saipan Mayors' Office and 2018 Liberation Day Committee, will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base from June 29 to July 7, 2018, from 6pm to 10pm (closing at 11pm on Fridays and Saturdays). The celebration will include food and drink sales, live entertainment, games, arts and craft sales, and more. This year's Liberation Day theme is "Sea to Shining Sea," celebrating the International Year of the Coral Reef and the islands' oceanic heritage and cultures.

The registration deadline for floats and marching units is June 15, 2018. Float prizes are: first place, $4,000; second place, $3,000; third place, $2,000; and fourth place, $1,000. The 4th of July parade will be held at 3pm beginning at National Office Supply to Garapan Fishing Base.

For a parade application or more information, visit www.saipanmayor.net. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Saipan Chamber June meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be having its June general membership meeting today, June 6, at the Saipan World Resort. This meeting highlights the annual presentation of the Chamber's Scholarship Awards. The Chamber will award six scholarships of $2,000 each. Guest speakers will be Polly Masga, general manager of Marianas Medical Center; Janel Pangelinan, claims processor with Pacifica Insurance; and Nicole Babauta, CNMI Small Business Development Center director. Reservations will be accepted at executive@saipanchamber.com for parties of four or more. ***(PR)***

Emergency water outage in San Vicente

There was an emergency water service interruption in San Vicente yesterday, affecting customers residing on Katupat Drive, Bentana Drive, Laulau Bay Drive, Hotdu Drive and the Lower Portion of Katbon Road.

According to a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. notice, the water interruption was due to a damaged distribution water line that CUC's contractor inadvertently damaged during a power pole change out project.

The location of the water line break was across Ming Yang Market in San Vicente. CUC made the necessary repairs last night. The southbound lane across Ming Yang Market in San Vicente was closed. ***(CUC)***

Scheduled power interruption on Thursday

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Thursday, June 7, from 9am to 1pm to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. linemen to relocate three spans of primary lines and pole hardware to an adjacent location such that existing underground wastewater lines beneath these distribution lines can be accessible for repair. Power service to Chalan Kiya will be affected but not water wells. The W-5 wastewater lift station affecting the Chalan Laulau Middle Road, As Terlaje, San Jose, and Oleai areas will be affected. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282. ***(PR)***

Indian, Japanese, US forces to take part in Exercise Malabar

Naval ships, aircraft and personnel from India, Japan, and the United States will participate in Exercise Malabar 2018, in mid-summer 2018 off the coast of Guam. The exercise will feature both ashore and at-sea training off the coast of Guam in the Philippine Sea. Malabar 2018 is the first time the exercise has been conducted off the coast of Guam, and the latest in a continuing series of exercises that has grown in scope and complexity over the years to address the variety of shared threats to maritime security. Training will focus on high-end warfighting skillsets, subject matter expert and professional exchanges, combined carrier strike group operations, maritime patrol and reconnaissance operations, surface and anti-submarine warfare, medical operations, damage control, helicopter operations and visit, board, search and seizure operations. ***(PR)***

Pacific Fleet Band to perform in Guam

ASAN, Guam—The public is invited to free performances by the U.S. Pacific

Fleet Band's contemporary music group, Big Wave, on:

- June 6: 7pm at the CHamoru Village
- June 7: 9:30am, Tamuning Senior Citizens Center; 2:30pm, at the Dededo Senior Citizens Center
- June 8: Noon at Micronesia Mall's center court in Dededo; 5pm at Guam Premier Outlets' food court in Tamuning

The band, based out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, is under the operational control of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. The band is dedicated to providing top quality music and entertainment in support of the U.S. Navy's retention and recruiting programs, and for internal and external public relations. ***(PR)***

Japanese class kicks off summer library institute

Last May 16, the Teen Summer Library Experience and Adult Summer Library Institute kicked off with a free Introduction to Japanese class taught by Yoko Fujioka-Kern. The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library invites the community to attend the remaining classes: today, June 6, and Friday, June 8. In a series of eight classes, participants will learn the basics of Japanese such as basic pronunciation, Japanese history, culture, and simple vocabulary. Because it is part of the Collaborative Summer Library Institute, participants are able to count this class toward completing their reading log. Contact Librarian II Emily Van Weerdhuizen for more information about the free Teen and Adult Summer Library Program at emily.jkpl@gmail.com/670-235-7323. ***(PR)***

Summer hours at JKPL

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be implementing summer hours from Tuesday, June 12, to Saturday, Aug. 4, 2018. The library hours will be as follows: Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. For the latest news and events, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. Call the library at 670-235-7322/23 for questions/concerns. ***(PR)***

Military training at FDM, Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Farallon de Medinilla until June 7, from 10am to 11pm. The military will also conduct training at Warning Area 517 on June 9, from 5pm to 10pm. It is recommended the public, fishermen and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks are open for public use. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. ***(PR)***

Club 200 dinner on Oct. 13

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter will hold its annual Club 200 fundraising dinner on Oct. 13. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the NMI chapter here in the Commonwealth. This year's theme is "Rockin' out to 40 years," a rock-and-roll celebration of 40 years of humanitarian work. There will be raffle prizes, dance and costume contests as well as food and beverages. For more information call the Chapter at 234-3459. ***(PR)***

MVA installs safety signs at key tourist sites

As part of its ongoing efforts to ensure visitors have a safe and enjoyable visit, the Marianas Visitors Authority has installed safety signs at four key locations on Saipan.

The safety signs warn of strong currents, large waves, and cliff lines and were installed last month at Obyan Beach, Ladder Beach, Lau Lau Beach, and Forbidden Island Lookout, and trailhead.

"In the past a majority of our visitors were on package tours, visiting select sites with their tour guides. But as FIT—fully independent travel—has grown, we've seen an increase in the number of visitors placing themselves in dangerous and evenly deadly situations, sometimes because they are not aware of certain dangers," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "The four sites selected for signs have been identified as the most critical based on present danger, frequency of use, and remoteness. We want every visitor to return home safely, and hopefully these signs will help them exercise greater caution and make informed decisions about their personal safety when visiting these locations."

The warnings are provided in English, Korean, Chinese, and Japanese, the four languages used most by visitors to the islands. The safety signs supplement MVA's ongoing, multi-language videos on personal and driving safety that air on the Visitors Channel.

"'Tourism is Everybody's Business,' so if you see a tourist about to put themselves in danger, please warn them," said MVA tour guide certification manager Kuen-Hee Han. "Together, we can help prevent injuries and save lives."

Safety is also one of the topics taught as part of the MVA tour guide certification program curriculum at Northern Marianas College. ***(PR)***

Citizenship, naturalization papers are rebooted for more secure docs

WASHINGTON—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services began issuing redesigned certificates of citizenship and naturalization yesterday, following a successful pilot in four USCIS field offices and one service center.

The redesign of these eight certificates is one of the many ways USCIS is working to combat fraud and safeguard the legal immigration system.

The new certificate design was piloted at the Norfolk, Tampa, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Sacramento field offices, as well as at the Nebraska Service Center.

The certificates of naturalization are:

N-550, issued to an individual who obtains U.S. citizenship through the naturalization process;

N-578, issued to a naturalized U.S. citizen to obtain recognition as a U.S. citizen by a foreign state; and

N-570, issued when the original certificate of naturalization is lost, mutilated, or contains errors.

A certificate of citizenship is issued to an individual who obtains U.S. citizenship other than through birth in the United States or through naturalization. The various types of certificates of citizenship are:

N-560A, issued to an applicant who derived citizenship after birth;

N-560AB, issued to an applicant who acquired citizenship at birth;

N-645 and N-645A, issued to the family of an individual who served honorably in the U.S. armed forces during a designated period of hostility and died as a result of injury or disease incurred in or aggravated by that service. Form N-645 is issued if the decedent was a male, and the N-645A if the decedent was a female.

Form N-561, issued to replace a certificate of citizenship when the original certificate is lost, mutilated, or contains errors.

The redesigned certificates of citizenship and naturalization feature a large, central image against a complex patterned background, which helps deter the alteration of personal data. Each certificate possesses a unique image only visible under ultraviolet light and attempts to alter it will be evident.

Posthumous certificates of naturalization and the special certificate of citizenship each bear a different image, yet feature the same fraud-deterrent security features.

Periodically changing the design and printing methods for these certificates helps USCIS stay a step ahead of counterfeiters.

Although the look and feel of the documents is new, the process of applying for and receiving them has not changed. Individuals do not need to renew their Certificates of Naturalization or Citizenship, regardless of when they were issued. The certificates we issued before the redesign will continue to be accepted as proof of citizenship. ***(USCIS)***

MTEC names Top 5 graphic designers

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To wrap up Tourism Month, the Marianas Tourism Education Council, in conjunction with the Marianas Visitors Authority, recently named the five winners of the Marianas graphic design contest.

The winners of the 2nd Annual Marianas Graphic Design competition were awarded last May 26, on the final day of Taste of the Marianas.

Out of 42 competitors CNMI-wide, only five individuals were chosen. The first place winner was Dea Patio from Tinian Junior/Senior High School.

Patio's entry featured Tinian's pristine Taga Beach. According to her, she chose to feature the beach because not only is it the most popular beach on Tinian, but it is also extremely clean and natural.

Patio was awarded $300 and her web design will be used by MVA for its promotional materials.

Coming in at second place was Mary-Grace Cavas of Hopwood Middle School. Cavas' web design was inspired by Saipan's Suicide Cliff because of the history that is associated with the site and because it is a majestic site to see.

Cavas took home $200 and her work will be displayed by the MVA.

Third place winner Angela Barbo from Marianas High School featured Banzai Cliff in her graphic design entry. According to her, she was mesmerized by the beautiful Pacific Ocean below the cliff.

Barbo was awarded $100 and a chance to have her work displayed by MVA.

Fourth place winner Angel Lagunay from Tinian Junior/Senior High School captured the House of Taga and the latte stones located in Tinian's San Jose village.

Lagunay was awarded $50 and a chance to have her work displayed by MVA.

Completing the Top 5 was Chareena Layugan from Hopwood Middle School. Layugan's web design was inspired by Puntan Lagua on Saipan. According to her, the view is breathtaking and she wanted to share it with others.

Layugan was also awarded $50 and a chance to have her work displayed by MVA.

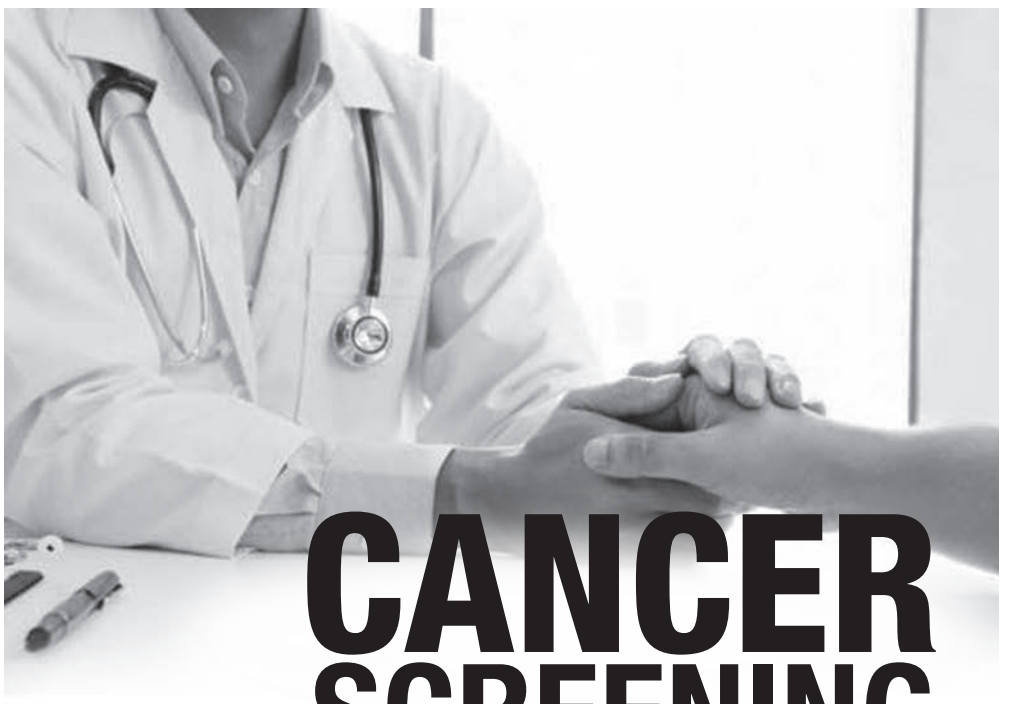
The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) CNMI Chapter invites you to earn up to 8 hours of CPE credits.

Topics to discuss:

- Various Characteristics of the Fraudster
- Ethics and AICPA Integrity/Independence Update
- Leadership and Effective Teams
- Effective Writing for Accountants and Auditors
- Plop, Plop, Fizz, Fizz - Fraud in Government

Venue: Hyatt Regency Saipan (Regency Ballroom)
Date: June 8, 2018
Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Registration Fee: $175.00 Per Person Including Lunch

To register please contact Juvilyn Sablan @ 670-322-7337 or email jsablan@deloitte.com or glendacabrera@deloitte.com



CANCER SCREENING CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

For more information in the CNMI, please contact the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728/7.

Brought to you by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Comprehensive Cancer Control Program under the Division of Public Health Non-Communicable Disease Bureau through 100% funding provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-020

REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF ENGINES 8 AND 4 AT POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Removal and relocation of Engine 8 Alternator and Engine No. 4 Frame & Alternator at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, of the removal of the engine frame and alternator assemblies from its foundation, dismantling and further relocation to a designated location as detailed in the bid documents. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **60 calendar days** from the date of issuance of the Notice to Proceed (NTP).

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non- refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **May 22, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC power plant Conference Room. Prospective Bidders are mandated to attend both Pre-Bid and Site Visit.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-18-020 - Removal and relocation of Engine 8 Alternator and Engine No. 4 Frame & Alternator at Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 15, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 31, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

Why the humanities matter now more than ever

This graduation season, we'd like to offer a little advice to those preparing for college. As you pick a major, remember that the humanities matter, perhaps more now than ever.

Yes, we know we're at the dawn of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), when technology is replacing millions of jobs and everything from big data to biotechnology is changing the way we think about work and education. We also know the response to these changes is often to prune humanities courses in favor of technical training programs.

But we believe this is a mistake. In a time of great disruption, the humanities, and the perspective and analytical skills they provide, will become more important.

Technical and vocational schools are crucial. But that should not come at the expense of a liberal-arts education. Classes in literature, philosophy, history, religion, political science, languages and the arts are essential. The very notion of what it is to be a free citizen in a republic was first formed then expanded by the works of Plato, Shakespeare, Smith, Jefferson, de Tocqueville, Whitman, Dickenson, Du Bois and Baldwin.

As philosophy professor Scott Samuelson wrote in a 2014 article "Why I Teach Plato to Plumbers" for The Atlantic, "We should strive to be a society of free people, not simply one of well-compensated managers and employees." When considered in this light, the liberal arts are essential to any functioning liberal democracy and the American experiment as a whole.

Furthermore, the assumption that "pragmatic" fields are better for students is questionable at best. A 2014 study by the Association of American Colleges and Universities and the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems found that, by their mid-50s, liberal arts majors with advanced or undergraduate degrees on average earn higher salaries than those who studied in professional and pre-professional fields.

While the value of a reliable livelihood cannot be overstated, perhaps the greater value is the overall benefit of a liberal-arts education to our society, culture and politics. Here in Dallas, we are lucky to be home to the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture, which strives to "enrich and deepen the practical life of the city with the wisdom and imagination of the humanities."

As part of this mission, the institute awards the Hiett Prize in the Humanities each year to an individual "whose work shows extraordinary promise to have a significant impact on contemporary culture." Samuelson was the 2015 recipient, and last year the prize went to James Matthew Wilson, a poet, critic and scholar of philosophical-theology and literature at Villanova University.

In his acceptance speech, Wilson spoke of literature as "moral instruction" about events. "To know the truth," he

See HUMANITIES on Next Page

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THE PRESIDENT WOULD PARDON YOU?
I USED TO WATCH "THE APPRENTICE."
LAS VEGAS SUN
DISTRIBUTED BY KFS/NAS 2018
MIKE SMITH

Sign of looming labor challenges

By ANDRES OPPENHEIMER
Miami Herald

Andres Oppenheimer is a columnist for the Miami Herald. *Readers may email him at aoppenheimer@miamiherald.com.*

The most important news story in recent days is one that has gone practically unnoticed in the media: the threat by 50,000 Las Vegas hotel and casino workers to go on strike. They fear that they will be replaced by robots.

As kitchen workers, concierges and receptionists are increasingly replaced by robots—as will accountants, lawyers and journalists—you will see a growing wave of anti-tech, anti-automation protests around the world.

Already, we have seen protests by taxi drivers in Paris, Johannesburg and Buenos Aires against Uber and other technology firms that have disrupted the transportation world. And we have seen a public outcry against Facebook and other big tech firms following the scandal over Cambridge Analytica's access to private data of more than 50 million Facebook users, which has been linked to the Trump campaign.

The next wave of public discontent may be aimed at job-threatening robots. A 2013 Oxford University study by Carl B. Frey and Michael A. Osborne—whom, for full disclosure, I have interviewed extensively for a book I wrote on this issue that's due to be released this year—predicted that up to 47 percent of U.S. jobs are at risk of being replaced by automation in the next 15 years.

In a May 23 vote, 99 percent of the 25,000 Las Vegas Culinary Workers Union members who cast their ballots voted to go on strike when their contract expired June 1. In addition to higher pay and job security against robots, they demanded that casinos take stronger measures against sexual harassment and immigration-related abuses.

"I voted yes to go on strike to ensure my job isn't outsourced to a robot," said Chad Neanover, a cook at the Margaritaville hotel, according to the union's web page. "We know technology is coming, but workers shouldn't be pushed out and left behind."

Culinary Workers Union secretary treasurer Geoconda Arguello-Kline said in a statement that, "We support innovations that improve jobs, but we oppose automation when it only destroys jobs. Our industry must innovate without losing the human touch."

A study by the University of Redlands says that 65.2 percent of jobs in Las Vegas have the potential of being automated over the next 10 to 20 years.

At the Tipsy Robot bar within the Planet Hollywood casino in Las Vegas, there already are robots making cocktails. According to the Tipsy Robot web page, its robots "have the capacity to produce 120 drinks per hour."

It adds that, "Our mechanical marvels use exact measurements, ensuring a perfectly crafted sip every time. They have killer dance moves, too."

At the Mandarin Oriental Las Vegas hotel, a 4-foot-tall robotic concierge recently started offering assistance about hotel services and directions. At the Las Vegas Renaissance Hotel, meanwhile, two room delivery robots can take food or drinks to your room.

Culinary Union spokeswoman Bethany Khan told me that, "We don't oppose technology, but we want to have a say in how technology is implemented in our workforce." Among other things, she told me, people displaced by technology should be retrained, "so that workers have the opportunity to grow with technology, versus being laid off."

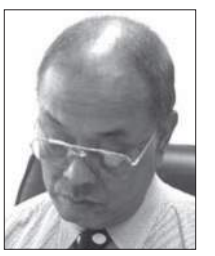
Most likely, the Las Vegas casino workers will not be able to stop the robotization of many of their jobs. Since English textile workers known as the Luddites in the 19th century destroyed weaving machines to protest the growing mechanization of their work, there have been many efforts by labor unions to stop automation. Most of them have failed.

The big question is whether the transition to a world of robots will be brutal, leaving millions of people jobless, or be gradual, providing training to allow displaced workers get better jobs. If it's the latter, the world may become a better place, and greater productivity may allow us to provide a universal basic income to everyone.

The robotization of work—and the growing rebellion against it—will be the big story of the 21st century. Even though most people still have not noticed, it's already happening—and the contention in Las Vegas makes clear.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Bittun integredat



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune*.*

Iprimet na sensuran man-sabiun I Deni` kanaha` todu sumufa` i `edda` gi 80 pot sientu na hatsadan suetdu ni para i betsan niha.

Ni unu rumepara na ha tatken maisa siha ya sige man-asogne haye tumatkegue`. Achog man-tinatitiye ni lalu` ni unu malagu` umatmite na siha i tumatke fonyidus niha. Dios mihu!

Dispues, man-asañgane na muñga mampus madiskute 80 pot sientu sa` u fan masiente ni publiku. Otru che`chu muron! `Nai in` ipus mas ke 14-mit na empleau ni gumagana sumen tagpapa` na suetdu yan 3-mit na manritirau magahet na ni unu sumiente malabidan miyu?

Hombre iya`! Man-malefa hamyu na esta hinanum kabesan miyu ya taimanu i fotgun pañales, debi lokue` in` fan matulaika? Ileghu na ti mapot este na kuentas, no? Taimanu ha` kuentas miyu `nai in` tutat 100% yan 56% humuyuñg 80 pot sientu! Haf` mohon?

Basula: Mafa` si kopas yan basula nesessidat i tautau pot betsan niha. Kontra estomagun i tautau este na linache ni mahasñgun. Sin ditension mahatsa suetdun niha 80 pot sientu ya matira basula guatu gi empleau civil service.

Gi halum 26-mit na empleau guine, 14-15 mit gumagana suetdun popble (poverty income and below). Haf` taimanu para in` ipus este na faktu? Ti hoñgiyun na malabida kontra monedan manadan familia!

Ayu na man-a`añañgun i republican na umana` silensiu asuntun 80 pot sientu. Diberas? Dispues de mama` fagas pachut i tautau gi señgsoñg siha? Haf` para un` na`na` dispues de in` tatke hamyu? Hamyu mismu pumega traban miyu publikamiente.

Don't Loud! Man-a`asañgane pa`gu i republican na umana` ñañgon asuntun 80 pot sientu pot no u oppan gi publiku! Dios mihu!

Dispues de dañosu na aksion para in` na`na` mutuñg balutan miyu ginen intellihente na publiku? Hagas paguan yan inipus na lamug mattu gi señgsoñg siha. Haf` ineppen miyu ni in` ipus na 14-mit na empleau ni gumagana suetdun popble (poverty income level)? Ni kuantu na "don't loud" esta hagas oppan publikamente!

Gulosu: Megai man-chatsaga ya todu numesessita maseha dididi` na ayudu gi monedan familia. In` ipus ayu na nesessidat pot betsan miyu?

Ni unu u kuentos. Lau `nai un` fatta na unna` bula betsamu ya un` luñu` linala` mampoble naturatmiente na kontodu i idu u esalau!

Debi mohon u guaha sattun na sensian inadahe gi talulu` gi tiempun ha`ilas. Lau in` fatkeluye i mas man-namase` pot buchin miyu!

Konsidera i manadan familia ni fuetsau in` sapet pot ambenteria. Magahet na taiguenau mañan miyu dispues de todu i ofresimientun adelantu ni in` dis-attende?

Pañales: Ilegña famosu na titige` as Mark Twain na gaga` politika yan pañales debi umatulaika sessu pot parehu rason. Sumen magahet ayu na fino`ña!

I gaga` politika gigon hinanum titanosña kontodu nobenan talo`ane magpu`. Ni para u baba kalañke` kañaiña makat. Sessu losus achog ti chumochu katdun to`lañg. Dispues hafa` bisiu maigu` katkuet ora gi halum hunta!

Anog ensegidas na ha abandona obligasion representasion. Hokog ansianu na guafen pinetsige para u adelanta kualidat ha`anen i publiku. Lau kumu pot suetdoña esta matotompu` hulu` gi hegsu` I Deni`. Dios mihu!

Guine na estau maulegña u deskansa i prohimu(ma) sa` tumaibali hagas planuña ni todu hana` fan maigu`. Pega gi galaide` gi lemlem tautau ya un` choneg huyuñg gi puntan tasi. Guiya la`mon kau u peska pat haf` otru para u chogue! Lastima!

Disposision: Durun chaleg-yu` yan amiguhu Magoo `nai in` diskukute 40 años desde ke ta gobietnan maisa hit. Era, esta pa`gu kada ratu manlosgun hit gi kantun kanat kumbalache.

Ha laladeyu` "A`suñgun sa` a`tautau este guatu (siha). A`siempre a`lache sa` a`tautau ti a`santos". Komprendiyun. Dispues hu lapbla, "Magoo, 40 años ya kada ratu marepite i mismu linache?"

Lau faktu na i sisteman demokrasia na gobietnu sumen dispasiu mana` fan dinanche finatsu siha. Soluke mattu rebulasion ginen i publiku mangatdun hit gi sistema `nai kada dos años ha biragues` direchu guatu ti tautau pot uttimu disposision.

**Pipinu`:** Chenot kanset, piot `nai esta atbansau ya ti amtiyun, sumen makat na pinadese gi malañgu. Katkuet patte gi tatautau-ta siña inaminasa chenot kanset. Ha inklusu pachot, guetgueru, estomagu, reñihion, tilipas lodu`, kosas yan susun famalao`an, kontodu titanus.

Mauleg in` fan mariseta desde idat 35 años. Cha`mu batbaruruye un` chenot estake sala`. Mas guaha chansa ma-amte `an taftaf masoda` giya hagu kau gofes pat manu gi tatautaumu. Silensiu na chenot mina` mauleg regulat na un` mariseta ni mediku.

2018: A pivotal year for CNMI self-government

By JOSE S. DELA CRUZ
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

This November, the people of the Northern Marianas will once again head to the polls to decide who our political leaders will be for the next four years. The year 2018, as we should recall, is the 40th anniversary of our political relationship with the United States. We became a self-governing commonwealth in 1978. From a historical perspective, therefore, this year is a milestone in our political development.

We have now governed ourselves for four decades under our own constitution and laws. But the fundamental question that we still need to address, even at this stage of our political development, remains: What should our political leaders be doing to improve the quality of life in the CNMI during the next 40 years?

After 400 years of colonization by Spain, Germany and Japan, the Northern Marianas *freely decided* in 1976 to become a part of the United States. In 1978, we began governing ourselves under own constitution and pursuant to the terms of the Northern Marianas Covenant: the legal instrument that sets the basic terms and conditions of our consensual relationship with the United States.

We now have had a fair amount of experience at governing ourselves—after four centuries of colonization. For 40 years now, we have been *freely* electing our own leaders, making our own laws, and governing ourselves. This is self-government in the most basic sense of that term; and we are indeed fortunate to be governing ourselves.

A number of us, however, do not want the federal government telling us what to do. Yet we welcome the millions of dollars in federal grant monies that the CNMI receives every year: for PSS, for CHCC, for DPS, for CPA, for Public Works, for environmental quality, for food stamp, for housing assistance, for homeland security, for coral reef protection, and so forth.

Indeed, when the CNMI economy went into a tailspin in 2008 and for several years after that, the millions of dollars in grant monies that we received from the federal government helped us weather the worst economic recession in the history of the Commonwealth. The gross revenue generated by the CNMI government dipped to its lowest during that period.

But instead of exhibiting a sense of gratitude for the substantial, federal financial benefits and assistance we receive as a member of the American political family, many of us remain dissatisfied with our political relationship with the U.S. government. One of the most telling examples of this peculiar attitude was the recent legislative enactment establishing a "*Second* Marianas *Political Status Commission*" presumably for the purpose of renegotiating our political relationship with the United States.

Some of us even talk about becoming a "freely associated state" like the FSM and Palau or, still, becoming an independent nation. The proponents of this political attitude have apparently forgotten that the people of the Northern Marianas have already exercised their right to self-determination—back in 1976: yes, at the Mt. Carmel School auditorium where the Covenant was signed amidst great fanfare.

But aside from that fact, the U.N. trusteeship council, which oversaw the process of self-determination and decolonization of territories which were once not self-governing, no longer exists. There is no longer any territory that is still under U.N. trusteeship.

It seems to me that the people of the CNMI should once and for all make peace with the fact that we have already exercised our right to self-determination—and move on. Instead of griping over our political relationship with the United States, the people of the Northern Marianas and its leaders should instead work hard to improve and develop the CNMI, including our unique relationship with the United States. And one way of doing this is by addressing those fundamental issues that makes any community prosperous, healthy, and safe.

Among those basic issues are: (1) having an educated citizenry; (2) maintaining a sound public health system; (3) having an effective and honest law enforcement system; (4) removing all forms of corruption in government; (5) maintaining a clean, safe and healthy environment; (6) having a skilled workforce; (7) establishing an effective and progressive public land-use system; (8) enacting laws that address the needs of the public (rather than passing laws that benefit only a few); (9) adopting long-term planning and development policies that promote a sound economic base for the islands (and not allowing haphazard, short-term or destructive economic activities that benefit only a few or prey on the weaknesses of people); and so forth.

Whoever is running for public office this year (i.e., all the candidates for the executive and legislative branches, for delegate to Congress, for mayor, and so forth) should answer to us, the voters in advance of this coming election why they believe they are capable and competent to be elected to public office. All of the candidates should provide us, the voters, with the specific plans that they have and which they believe, if implemented, would benefit the people of the Commonwealth.

The people of the Northern Marianas are tired of being taken advantage of by certain of our elected leaders—and their cronies, business associates and close friends. The people of the Northern Marianas are frustrated with certain elected leaders whom we vote into office, *and who then turn around and do the bidding of the few who have the money, the power and the influence over them.*

A review and examination of what has happened in the CNMI government during the past four to eight years should be conducted by the voters before this coming election. And a series of public debates among the executive and legislative branch candidates should be held before the general election in November. This way, voters could make an informed decision as to which of the candidates should be elected to public office.

The voters of the CNMI, regardless of party affiliation, should vote into office only those candidates who will advance and further the best interest of the people of the CNMI. If we fail to do this, we will end up suffering for another four years. And we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

Jose S. Dela Cruz is a former justice of the CNMI Supreme Court.

HUMANITIES

From Page 10

continued, "we have to know what things are good for. To know the truth about ourselves, we have to know what we're good for. And that entails knowing our story."

This—telling stories and knowing the truth—is what the humanities offers. And it is, perhaps, the key ingredient to the continued success of our American experiment. Now is not the time to retreat on this front. Surely, the demands of 4IR and our ever-accelerating society will be enriched by what we rightly call the "humanities."

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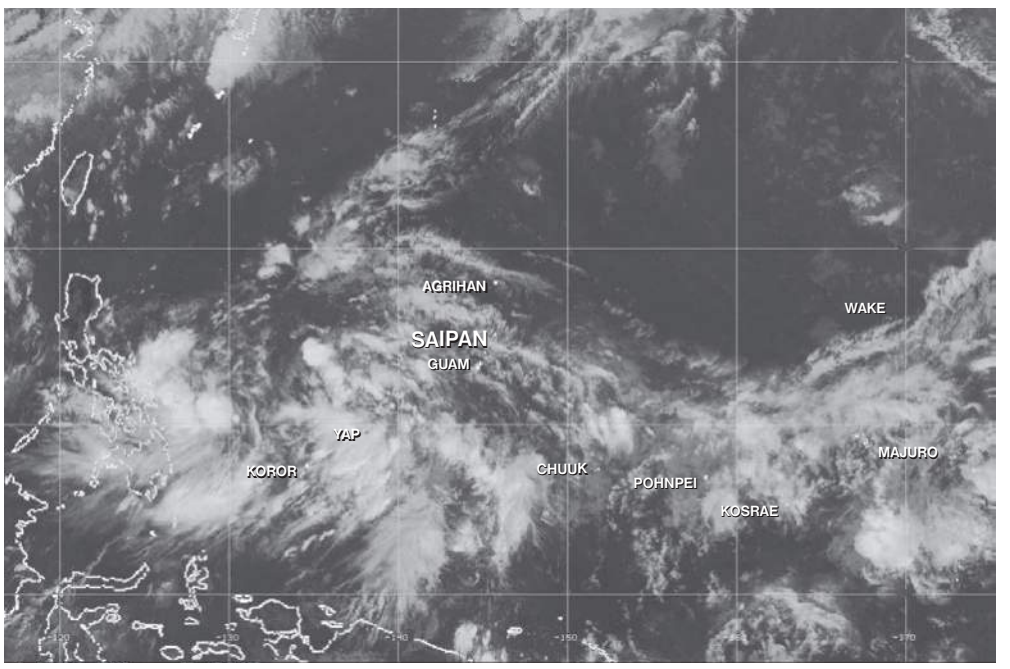
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:17 AM, TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

JTWC invest area 91W is centered well west of Guam near 14N139E, looking rather sickly, especially when compared with 90W near 10N133E, which appears to be developing. Low-level convergence east of 91W is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Guam and Rota waters. East winds are moderate to fresh, with 4-6 ft seas at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	57° / 48°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	95° / 68°
Hong Kong	Rain	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Showers	83° / 73°
London	Partly Cloudy	73° / 54°
Los Angeles	Sunny	74° / 59°
Manila	Thunderstorm	91° / 81°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°
Miami	Thunderstorm	85° / 75°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	67° / 57°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	84° / 70°
Paris	Thunderstorm	75° / 63°
Busan	Sunny	79° / 66°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	82° / 64°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	88° / 65°
San Francisco	Windy	59° / 51°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	84° / 64°
Tokyo	Rain	81° / 66°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	71° / 59°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:37 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.81
7:51 AM	LOW TIDE	1.09
11:57 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.40
7:05 PM	LOW TIDE	0.26

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	5:45 AM	6:445 PM
Friday	5:45 AM	6:46 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:47 AM	-
Thursday	12:33 AM	12:36 PM	-
Friday	1:13 AM	1:26 PM	-
Saturday	1:53 AM	2:17 PM	-
Sunday	2:35 AM	3:11 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Trump, facing pushback, vows US will be stronger on trade

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump faced pushback Monday from Republican lawmakers, an influential GOP group and foreign leaders over his tough negotiations that are hitting China, Canada and Mexico with tariffs amid fears of a trade war.

But the president defended his actions saying the U.S. would soon be in a stronger position with its top trading partners.

Trump wrote in a series of tweets that his trade negotiations with China and a slew of U.S. allies would break down large trade barriers faced by American farmers. He said that China "already charges a tax of 16% on soybeans. Canada has all sorts of trade barriers on our Agricultural products. Not acceptable!"

In a conference call later Monday with grassroots supporters, he said: "We will be in a very strong position very soon. We don't want to be taken advantage of anymore."

AP

President Donald Trump smiles as he attends a Change of Command ceremony at the U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Friday, June 1, 2018, in Washington.

The president last week imposed tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from top U.S. trading partners, including Canada, Mexico and the European Union. And he has threatened tariffs on up to $200 billion in Chinese imports, raising the potential for retaliation in a dispute involving the globe's two largest economies.

Senate Republicans have warned that the tariffs could dampen the economic gains from the GOP tax cuts and sour the mood among voters as lawmakers campaign to protect the Republican majority in Congress in November midterm elections.

Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., said he met with senators Monday as they consider a legislative response, drawing interest from "both sides of the aisle" who are concerned about the tariffs.

The lawmakers were trying to draft a narrowly focused bill that would require a vote in Congress to approve tariffs when the administration claims they're needed for national security, as it did for those on steel and aluminum from the top U.S. allies.

It's a longshot legislative strategy, but the group was working quickly to try to produce an amendment that could win support in time for debate on a separate, must-pass defense bill.

White House legislative affairs director Marc Short dismissed the chatter. "To suggest that it's news that Congress would want to reclaim powers that belong to the executive branch, I don't think is exactly newsworthy," he said on CNN.

Many Farm Belt lawmakers worry that the trade disputes could make American farmers the target of retaliation. Mexico, for example, has said it will penalize U.S. imports including pork, apples, grapes and cheeses.

At least one Republican, Sen. David Perdue of Georgia, said he was not ready for Congress to intervene because, having just returned from Asia, he's confident Trump has gained China's attention and he wants to see the strategy "play out."

Groups backed by the influential Koch brothers' network announced Monday they were launching a new multimillion-dollar campaign to oppose tariffs and highlight the benefits of free trade. The groups—Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce, Americans for Prosperity and The LIBRE Initiative—called on Congress to exert oversight by requiring House and Senate votes on any new tariffs and urged the lifting of the recent steel and aluminum tariffs as well as those being proposed on goods from China.

Tim Phillips, the president of Americans for Prosperity, said the tariffs amounted to "self-imposed barriers" to the $1.5 trillion tax overhaul that Trump signed into law in December. "The Trump administration has taken some incredibly positive steps for the American economy, but tariffs will undercut that progress and needlessly hamstring our full economic potential," he said in a statement.

Starbucks' Schultz mulling 'philanthropy to public service'

NEW YORK (AP)—Starbucks Corp.'s Howard Schultz is stepping down as executive chairman of the coffee company he helped transform into a global brand, and says public service may be in his future.

Schultz, 64, says he is considering many possibilities. He had endorsed Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton before the last presidential election and had sometimes deflected questions about whether he would run for office.

"I'll be thinking about a range of options for myself, from philanthropy to public service, but I'm a long way from knowing what the future holds," he said in a letter to employees.

Speculation has swirled for years that Schultz might run for president. While not addressing the question directly, he told The New York Times on Monday that "for some time now, I have been deeply concerned about our country—the growing division at home and our standing in the world."

Schultz's move comes after he ceded the day-to-day duties of CEO at Starbucks last year to focus on innovation and social-impact projects as executive chairman. As of June 26, Starbucks says Schultz will take the title of chairman emeritus. The Seattle-based chain says he is writing a book about Starbucks' social-impact moves and its efforts to redefine the role of a public company.

"Starbucks changed the way millions of people drink coffee, this is true, but we also changed people's lives in communities around the world for the better," Schultz said in his letter.

Schultz was known for aligning himself and Starbucks with issues like race and jobs for underprivileged youth—even when those efforts fell flat, like the "Race Together" campaign that encouraged workers to talk about race with customers. The company also long projected itself as a socially conscious company and promoted its stores as neighborhood gathering places.

More recently, as the company tried to restore its reputation after the arrests of two black men at a coffee shop in Philadelphia, Schultz said he didn't want people to feel "less than" if they were refused bathroom access.

Last week, the company closed its U.S. stores for several hours for bias awareness training for its employees, one of the measures it promised after the men were arrested as they waited for an associate but hadn't bought anything.

Lawyer: Bloody blanket found with dead dog after flight

ROMULUS, Mich. (AP)—A bloody blanket was among the items returned to a New York man whose dog died while traveling with Delta Air Lines, the man's attorney said Monday.

Evan Oshan, a lawyer for the Pomeranian's owner, said he's still awaiting the results of a necropsy on Alejandro. The 8-year-old dog was found dead in his carrier last Wednesday at a cargo facility at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

The dog was making a temporary stop in Michigan on its way to Newark, New Jersey, from Phoenix. Alejandro had been flying alone in the cargo section, Oshan said.

Oshan said he's puzzled by the bloody blanket.

"It was wet. They couldn't get the blood stains out. There was an attempt to clean it," said Oshan, who wonders whether someone was trying to cover up what happened.

He said the dog's carrier was also washed, possibly eliminating evidence.

Delta told WXYZ-TV that a flight attendant checked on Alejandro about 6 a.m. The dog was dead two hours later.

"We lost a family member," owner Michael Dellagrazie of Staten Island, New York, said.

Delta spokesman Michael Thomas said in a statement the airline is focused on the well-being of all the animals it transports.

"Delta is conducting a thorough review of the situation to ensure this does not happen again and have been working directly with Alejandro's family to support them however we can," he said.

Thomas added that Delta offered to have the dog evaluated by a veterinarian to find out why it died, but the family did not agree to it.

"The family now has Alejandro and we continue to offer our support," Thomas said.

Oshan said the dog passed a physical before the flight from Phoenix.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
24,813.69	2,746.87	7,606.46
+178.48	+12.25	+52.13
+0.72%	+0.45%	+0.69%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.31	Hong Kong Dollar	7.85	Russian Ruble	61.66
British Pound	0.751	Indian Rupee	67.16	Singapore Dollar	1.34
Canadian Dollar	1.29	Japanese Yen	109.82	South Korean Won	1,070.92
Chinese Yuan	6.41	Malaysian Ringgit	3.97	Swiss Franc	0.9881
Euro	0.86	New Zealand Dollar	1.42	Taiwan Dollar	29.79
		Philippine Peso	52.55	Thailand Baht	31.94

Nation

Justices side with Colorado baker on same-sex wedding cake

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court ruled Monday for a Colorado baker who wouldn't make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple in a limited decision that leaves for another day the larger issue of whether a business can invoke religious objections to refuse service to gay and lesbian people.

The justices' decision turned on what the court described as anti-religious bias on the Colorado Civil Rights Commission when it ruled against baker Jack Phillips. The justices voted 7-2 that the commission violated Phillips' rights under the First Amendment.

The case had been eagerly anticipated as, variously, a potentially strong statement about the rights of LGBT people or the court's first ruling carving out exceptions to an anti-discrimination law. In the end, the decision was modest enough to attract the votes of liberal and conservative justices on a subject that had the potential for sharp division.

Justice Anthony Kennedy said in his majority opinion that the larger issue "must await further elaboration" in the courts. Appeals in similar cases are pending, including one at the Supreme Court from a florist who didn't want to provide flowers for a same-sex wedding.

The disputes, Kennedy wrote, "must be resolved with tolerance, without undue disrespect to sincere religious beliefs, and without subjecting gay persons to indignities when they seek goods and services in an open market."

AP

Baker Jack Phillips, owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, manages his shop Monday, June 4, 2018, in Lakewood, Colo., after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that he could refuse to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple because his religious beliefs did not violate Colorado's anti-discrimination law.

The same-sex couple at the heart of the case, Charlie Craig and Dave Mullins, complained to the Colorado commission in 2012 after they visited Phillips' Masterpiece Cakeshop in suburban Denver and the baker quickly told them he would not create a cake for their wedding celebration. They were married in Massachusetts because same sex marriage was not yet legal in Colorado.

Colorado law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and the commission concluded that Phillips' refusal violated the law, despite Phillips' argument that he is opposed to same-sex marriage on religious grounds. Colorado state courts upheld the determination.

But when the justices heard arguments in December, Kennedy was plainly bothered by comments by a commission member that the justice said disparaged religion. The commissioner seemed "neither tolerant nor respectful of Mr. Phillips' religious beliefs," Kennedy said in December.

That same sentiment coursed through his opinion Monday. "The commission's hostility was inconsistent with the First Amendment's guarantee that our laws be applied in a manner that is neutral toward religion," he wrote.

Liberal justices Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan joined the conservative justices in the outcome. Kagan wrote separately to emphasize the limited ruling.

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor dissented. "There is much in the court's opinion with which I agree," Ginsburg wrote of Kennedy's repeated references to protecting the rights of gay people. "I strongly disagree, however, with the court's conclusion that Craig and Mullins should lose this case."

The Trump administration intervened in the case on Phillips' behalf, and Attorney General Jeff Sessions praised the decision. "The First Amendment prohibits governments from discriminating against citizens on the basis of religious beliefs. The Supreme Court rightly concluded that the Colorado Civil Rights Commission failed to show tolerance and respect for Mr. Phillips' religious beliefs," Sessions said.

President Donald Trump was unusually vague about the decision, simply tweeting, "Big Supreme Court ruling for Baker just out!"—more than 11 hours later.

Kristen Waggoner, the Alliance Defending Freedom senior counsel who argued Phillips' case, said the court was right to condemn the commission's open antagonism toward Phillips' religious beliefs about marriage.

Waggoner said Phillips is willing to sell ready-made products to anyone who enters his store. But, "he simply declines to express messages or celebrate events that violate his deeply held beliefs," she said.

Phillips was at his shop Monday morning, where he was busy answering the phone and getting congratulations from his supporters in person, including his pastor. One woman brought him balloons and others hugged him.

Trump: No pardon is necessary, but I can pardon myself

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump claimed he has an "absolute right" to pardon himself, part of an extraordinarily expansive vision of executive authority that is mostly untested in court and could portend a drawn-out fight with the prosecutors now investigating him.

No need of a pardon anyway, Trump tweeted Monday, because "I have done nothing wrong." In fact, his lawyers assert in a memo to special counsel Robert Mueller, it's impossible for him to have done anything wrong in the area of obstructing justice, an issue Mueller has been investigating. That's because, as the country's chief law enforcement officer, Trump himself has ultimate control of the Justice Department and executive branch.

Beyond that, his lawyers have repeatedly insisted that it's beyond dispute that a sitting president cannot be criminally prosecuted.

Trump also tweeted Monday that the Justice Department's "appointment of the Special Counsel is totally UNCONSTITUTIONAL."

Mueller's investigation moves forward nonetheless, and as it does courts may have to confront questions with minimal if any historical precedent. Those include whether a president can be forced to answer questions from prosecutors, whether it's possible for a commander in chief to criminally interfere in investigations and whether a president's broad pardon power can be deployed for corrupt purposes.

"There's a reason they're untested. It's because they were unthinkable," said Savannah Law School professor Andrew Wright, who served in the White House counsel's office under President Barack Obama. "The president's game here in part is to take issues that are so beyond the pale that they have never been tested and say, 'Look, there's no authority here on point.'"

Mueller is investigating whether Trump associates coordinated with Russia during the 2016 presidential election and whether Trump took steps to shut down that investigation through actions including the firing of FBI Director James Comey.

Though Trump insists he did nothing wrong, the statements from him and his lawyers, including the just-disclosed January memo to Mueller, make clear that much of their defense revolves around establishing that he was constitutionally empowered to take the actions he took.

The defense argument suggests that protocols meant to protect against abuses of power are merely norms the American public has come to expect, rather than laws binding on a president.

Man run down, 50 years after killing girl in hit-and-run

ALFRED, Maine (AP)—A woman with a history of drunken driving convictions drove her car onto a baseball field in Maine during a game, striking and killing a Vietnam War veteran who confessed five years ago to killing a 4-year-old girl in an alcohol-fueled 1968 hit-and-run, police said.

Screaming bystanders and ballplayers fled as Carol Sharrow, of Sanford, drove through a gate onto the field Friday night, police said. Video shows the car driving around the infield, turning over home plate and then heading toward the stands behind third base.

Douglas Parkhurst, of West Newfield, was near the park's main gate before he was hit and the car sped away. A witness said the man whose grandson played on the team was trying to push children out of the way.

"It was awful," said Sanford resident, Karyn Bean, who said she saw Parkhurst get hit. "A car driving through the gate hitting a man who was pushing kids out of the way, then her driving up the road easily doing 50 to 60 miles per hour past us ... It felt awful because we couldn't do anything."

Parkhurst died on the way to the hospital, and no one else was hurt.

Carol Sharrow, the 51-year-old woman police have charged with driving onto a baseball field and striking and killing a man, is being held on $500,000 bail and ordered to undergo a mental health evaluation. (June 4)

Tim Curley, a coach, said he was standing in the third-base dugout as he heard squealing tires and watched a car crash through the gate after its driver yelled, "Open the gates!" Curley later recognized that the driver was Sharrow, who worked as his grandmother's caretaker 12 years ago.

"I felt kind of helpless because at that point the only thing I knew was I cared about the safety of the kids on the ball field," Curley said. "I immediately yelled: 'Get off the field!'"

Sharrow did not speak or enter a plea during her first court appearance in Alfred on Monday. She was held on $500,000 bail and the court also ordered a mental health evaluation.

Sharrow's attorney, Robert Ruffner of Portland, declined to comment on a possible motive. He also said that he has been given no indication that alcohol was involved, and does not know if Sharrow and Parkhurst knew each other.

Sharrow has two previous drunken driving convictions in Maine and New Hampshire, according to Sanford police Det. Sgt. Matthew Jones. Authorities have declined to say whether alcohol was involved on Friday. She faces up to 30 years in jail.

Parkhurst was never charged in the hit-and-run death that killed Carolee Ashby in New York on Halloween night in 1968. The statute of limitations had long run out when Parkhurst walked into a police station in 2013 and confessed after two interviews with investigators.

In his four-page confession obtained by the Syracuse Post-Standard, Parkhurst said he and his brother had been drinking before he hit the girl. He said his brother was passed out in the back seat.

Asia

At Trump-Kim summit, don't expect N. Korea to foot the bill

TOKYO (AP)—When North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump hold their summit at an exclusive venue in Singapore, one of the priciest destinations in Asia, they will no doubt run up quite a bill. And if past precedent is any indication, expect Pyongyang to pay as little of it as possible.

Speculation over how North Korea will handle the costs for Kim's June 12 meeting with Trump has taken off after a Washington Post report cited two anonymous U.S. officials suggesting the Trump administration has been "seeking a discreet way" to help pay Kim's hotel bill.

The report suggested host nation Singapore might take care of it.

But what exactly needs to be paid for isn't yet clear.

Sure there are the costs of summit venue and the hotels, with one reported option, the Fullerton, coming with a $6,000-a-night price tag for its presidential suite. But that would hardly break the North Korean bank.

While Kim could decide to stay the night, or maybe even two, he might also be in a hurry to get back home, in which case the North wouldn't need a room so much as a base camp. North Korea has an embassy in Singapore, but that likely wouldn't be good enough to meet the logistical and security demands of a full-on summit.

The North may want to send a large delegation to accompany Kim and provide its own security. If there are any feelers going out about cost-sharing, that's a likely topic. But it would be more of a sweetener than a necessity.

AP

This May 30, 2018, image made from video shows the Fullerton Hotel in Singapore.

Whatever the venue, it's debatable why an outside party would need to pay.

North Korea's government, which is no stranger to hosting lavish events like military parades and party congresses of its own, has ample funds to cover important meetings for Kim.

While highly speculative—Kim is even more averse to divulging details about his personal wealth than Trump—the North Korean leader is believed by some foreign experts to be worth well over $1 billion and have access to billions dollars more thanks to the full backing of his country.

But as history has shown, summits with the Kim family don't come cheap.

Seoul reportedly spent somewhere in the range of $5 million to cover the costs of costs of President Moon Jae-in's first summit with Kim in April—a day-long affair that was held in publicly owned buildings on the South Korean side of the Demilitarized Zone.

And though this falls in a category all of its own, former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung's administration secretly paid $500 million to just to get Kim Jong Un's father to agree to the first-ever North-South Korea summit in 2000.

The South Korean president won that year's Nobel Peace Prize, before the payment was made public. One of his aides was convicted and went to prison.

Hosting North Koreans at sports events can also have extra costs attached.

South Korea paid $2.5 million to cover the costs of more than 400 North Koreans, only 22 of whom were athletes, at the Pyeongchang Games in February.

The Olympics were the first big step of Kim's ongoing diplomatic campaign, which he announced with great fanfare in January. But they weren't the first time Seoul had shelled out in the name of Korean unity.

For the Asian Games in Busan in 2002, it gave about $1.3 million, then $836,000 for a Universiade in 2003 and another $385,000 for the Asian Games in 2014.

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert has denied the U.S. would pay for North Korea in Singapore and said Washington wasn't asking anyone else to, either.

In keeping with normal practice, Singapore, as the host nation, will have to put out for general security and various other expenses.

Singapore announced Monday that it was declaring part of its city center a "special event area" from June 10 to 14 for the summit. The designation will allow for greater security in the area, which is near the U.S. Embassy as well as several hotels, including the Shangri-La.

The Shangri-La has been mentioned as a possible venue for the talks due to its experience as the site of an annual security conference that draws defense officials from around the globe.

Singapore's Defense Minister Ng Eng Hen on Saturday confirmed the country would foot some costs, while steering clear of the details or whether Pyongyang or Washington had made any specifics requests.

Rohingya say Myanmar targeted the educated in genocide

BALUKHALI REFUGEE CAMP, Bangladesh (AP)—The last time Mohammed Hashim saw his brother alive, he begged for his life, his arms bound behind his back as soldiers marched the 35-year-old teacher away.

It was Aug. 26, the day after Rohingya Muslim separatist attacks on military outposts in the group's homeland in western Myanmar. In their wake, Myanmar's military and local Buddhists would respond with a campaign of rape, massacre and arson that has driven about 700,000 Rohingya into Bangladesh.

But more than a dozen teachers, elders and religious leaders told The Associated Press that educated Rohingya —already subject to systematic and widespread harassment, arrests and torture — were singled out, part of Myanmar's operation to drive the Muslim Rohingya from majority Buddhist Myanmar.

Soldiers targeted the educated, they said, so there would be no community leaders left willing to speak up against the pervasive abuse.

It's an old tactic, according to those who study genocide —and often a precursor to killing.

"My brother apologized and pleaded with the military not to kill him; he showed them his ID card and said, 'I'm a teacher, I'm a teacher.' But the government had planned to kill our educated people, including my brother," Hashim said.

He was interviewed at one of the teeming Bangladesh refugee camps that have sprung up along the hilly border with Myanmar since the Rohingya exodus grew in August. Hashim, who is also a teacher, ran for the hills and hid after the military surrounded his hamlet in northern Rakhine state, where most of the Rohingya lived. Others told similar accounts.

After the Aug. 25 attacks, soldiers in Maung Nu village, the site of a massacre, asked villagers: "Where are the teachers?"

Rahim, a 26-year old high school science and math teacher who was known to many soldiers because he taught their children at the local battalion school, saw the military coming and fled.

"I knew I was dead if I got caught. They were hunting me," said Rahim, who, like some Rohingya, uses only one name. "They knew that I would always speak out for the people. They wanted to destroy us because they knew that without us they could do whatever they wanted to the rest of the Rohingya."

Mouth gets Duterte in trouble again, this time for kiss

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's mouth has landed him in hot water again, this time for kissing a married woman on the lips in front of thousands of his cheering supporters.

Duterte, known for his verbal outbursts and other antics, is being slammed by critics for the kiss, which took place Sunday during a town hall-style meeting with overseas Filipino workers in South Korea. One senator called the act "a despicable display of sexism and grave abuse of authority."

Duterte sought a kiss from the woman after he called her on stage to give her a copy of a book at the event in Seoul. When Duterte asked if she can explain to her husband that the antic was just a joke, and she said yes, the president leaned in and kissed her as thousands erupted in cheers.

The state-run TV network aired the scene live in the Philippines.

While the woman has defended the kiss and said she was thrilled by her encounter, others said the president went too far.

"President Duterte acted like a feudal king who thinks that being the president is an entitlement to do anything that he pleases," said Sen. Risa Hontiveros, who asked the public not to pass judgment on the woman. "Even if the act was consensual, it was the president, possessed of awesome, even intimidating, power who initiated it."

The left-wing Gabriela women's party condemned Duterte's act, which it said underscored his "machismo and misogyny." The "macho spectacle," it said, "alarmingly makes sexual advances against women look right."

Aside from growing alarm over his bloody crackdown against illegal drugs which has left thousands of mostly poor drug suspects dead, Duterte has come under fire from women's groups for sexist remarks, including one where he told troops to shoot female insurgents in the genitals during a public outburst against communist guerrillas.

He has also publicly kissed women in the past, including at rallies during his campaign for the presidency.

The latest incident came near the end of a two-hour rambling speech, when Duterte offered the crowd a book about alleged corruption and abuse in the Catholic church. He pointed at two women.

"There's payment for this, a kiss. You in white, are you ready to engage in kissing? Come here," the 73-year-old Duterte said as he summoned the women to the stage.

One of the women gave the president a peck on the cheek. The other woman reached for the president's hand and put it on her forehead in a traditional gesture of respect for an elderly. But the president asked her to come closer for a kiss, pointing to his lips.

Amid the roar of the crowd, Duterte asked if the woman was married and if her husband was around. He inquired if she could explain to her husband that what they were about to do was just a joke.

She said her husband wasn't around and replied yes to the president's other question.

"Make him jealous," the president said.

Duterte then leaned in and kissed the visibly overwhelmed woman, who screamed in joy and covered her face. He then hugged her.

"Don't take that seriously," Duterte later told the crowd. "It's just to give people fun."

The woman, who is married to a South Korean and has two daughters, later said in a TV interview that she was thrilled by her face-to-face encounter with the president. She said there was "no malice" in the presidential kiss, which was meant to dazzle the crowd.

World

First Saudi women receive driving licenses amid crackdown

AP

This image released by the Saudi Information Ministry, shows Tahani Aldosemani, Assistant Professor at Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University in Al-Kharj, as she displays her brand new driving license, at the General Department of Traffic in the capital, Riyadh, Monday, June 4, 2018.

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Saudi Arabia issued its first driver's licenses to 10 women on Monday as the kingdom prepared to lift the world's only ban on women driving in three weeks, but some who campaigned for the right to drive remain under arrest.

A government statement said the 10 women who were issued licenses already held driving licenses from other countries, including the U.S., U.K., Lebanon and Canada. They took a brief driving test and eye exam before being issued the licenses at the General Department of Traffic in the capital, Riyadh. International media were not present for the event.

Other women across the country have been preparing for the right to drive on June 24 by taking driving courses on female-only college campuses. Some are even training to become drivers for ride hailing companies like Uber.

Saudi women had long complained of having to hire costly male drivers, use taxis or rely on male relatives to get to work and run errands.

The surprise move to issue some women licenses early came as activists who had campaigned for the right to drive remain under arrest, facing possible trial.

Saudi Arabia's prosecutor said Sunday that 17 people had been detained in recent weeks on suspicion of trying to undermine security and stability, a case activists said targeted prominent women's rights campaigners.

The prosecutor's statement said eight have been temporarily released, while five men and four women remain under arrest. Among the women held since May 15 are Loujain al-Hathloul, Aziza al-Yousef and Eman al-Nafjan, according to people with knowledge of the arrests who've spoken to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity for fear of repercussions.

The three are among the most outspoken and well-known women's rights activists in Saudi Arabia. They not only risked arrest by pushing for the right to drive for years, but also called for an end to guardianship laws that give male relatives final say over a woman marrying or traveling abroad.

Their activism was seen as part of a larger democratic and civil rights push in the kingdom.

They now face a range of charges, including communicating with people and organizations hostile to the kingdom and providing financial and moral support to hostile elements abroad. State-linked media have referred to the group as "foreign embassy agents" and branded them traitors.

Three other veteran women's rights activists were briefly detained at the onset of the sweep. They had taken part in the first protest in 1990 against the kingdom's ban on women driving.

Nearly 50 women took part in that first driving protest some 28 years ago. The women were arrested, lost their jobs, had their passports confiscated for a year and faced severe stigmatization.

Others were detained over the years during various efforts by women's rights activists to drive. While Saudi law has never explicitly banned women from driving, women were not issued driving licenses. Often, police would detain a female driver until a male relative could pick her up and sign a pledge on her behalf that she would not drive again.

Guatemala volcano death toll up to 69, expected to rise

EL RODEO, Guatemala (AP)—Rescuers pulled survivors and bodies from the charred aftermath of the powerful eruption of Guatemala's Volcano of Fire, as the death toll rose to 69 on Monday and was expected to go higher from a disaster that caught residents of remote mountain hamlets off guard, with little or no time to flee to safety.

Using shovels and backhoes, emergency workers dug through the debris and mud, perilous labor on smoldering terrain still hot enough to melt shoe soles a day after the volcano exploded in a hail of ash, smoke and molten rock.

Bodies were so thickly coated with ash that they looked like statues, and rescuers were forced to use sledgehammers to break through the roofs of houses buried in debris up to their rooflines to try to see if anyone was trapped inside.

Fanuel Garcia, director of the National Institute of Forensic Sciences, said 69 bodies had been recovered and 17 of those had been identified.

"It is very difficult for us to identify them because some of the dead lost their features or their fingerprints" from the red-hot flows, Garcia said. "We are going to have to resort to other methods ... and if possible take DNA samples to identify them."

Rescuers using heavy machinery and shovels found the bodies of more victims of an eruption at Guatemala's Volcano of Fire. Crews also pulled 10 people still alive from the ash drifts and mud flows. (June 4)

Hilda Lopez said her mother and sister were still missing after the slurry of hot gas, ash and rock roared into her village of San Miguel Los Lotes, just below the mountain's flanks.

"We were at a party, celebrating the birth of a baby, when one of the neighbors shouted at us to come out and see the lava that was coming," the distraught woman said. "We didn't believe it, and when we went out the hot mud was already coming down the street."

"My mother was stuck there, she couldn't get out," said Lopez, weeping and holding her face in her hands.

Her husband, Joel Gonzalez, said his father had also been unable to escape and was believed to be "buried back there, at the house."

Guatemalan authorities say they had been closely monitoring the Volcano of Fire, one of Central America's most active, after activity picked up around 6 a.m. Sunday.

The volcano has registered a number of minor eruptions over the years, and no evacuations were ordered as scientific experts reported the activity was decreasing.

WORLD BRIEFS

Rights group says US-led coalition destroyed Syrian city

BEIRUT (AP)—An international human rights group on Tuesday accused the U.S. and its allies of showing little regard for civilians' lives while attacking the Syrian city that was once the de-facto capital of the Islamic State extremist group, an allegation denied by the American military. Amnesty International said the U.S.-led coalition's 2017 assault on Raqqa killed hundreds of civilians and reduced sections of the city to rubble. Researchers for Amnesty interviewed more than 100 residents and visited 42 coalition targets in the city in a two-week period in February. They published their findings in a report titled "War of Annihilation," in a reference to the language used by U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis in the lead-up to the campaign. "When so many civilians are killed in attack after attack, something is clearly wrong," said Donatella Rovera, one of the researchers who visited the city. U.S. Army Col. Sean Ryan, spokesman for the coalition, called the assertions "grossly inaccurate." He said the coalition and allied Syrian forces organized safe passages for residents to flee, but IS militants trapped them inside to use as human shields. "When you have an enemy that uses noncombatants as collateral damage, it's very difficult when you fight an enemy like that to completely avoid any casualties," Ryan said. Benjamin Walsby, another investigator on the Amnesty team, said the coalition should have adjusted its strategy accordingly.

UK police agency puts cost of ex-spy attack at $10M

LONDON (AP)—Police officers from 40 departments in England and Wales are returning to their home assignments three months after they stepped in to help local authorities respond to the nerve agent attack on a Russian ex-spy. The Wiltshire Police force, which serves the English city of Salisbury, reported Monday that it has spent about 7.5 million pounds ($10 million) dealing with the aftermath of the March 4 attack on Sergei Skripal and his daughter, Yulia. Chief Constable Angus Macpherson says his department wouldn't have been able to handle the crisis without the 1,230 outside officers who staffed cordons throughout the city. Macpherson says the officers no longer are needed because some decontaminated sites are being turned over to their owners and private security guards are being stationed at the remaining locations.

BRICS foreign ministers target Trump's tough trade action

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP)—The foreign ministers of the BRICS emerging economies have criticized what they call a "new wave of protectionism," a reference to U.S. President Donald Trump's tough trade negotiations with key economic partners. The envoys from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa referred to "unilateral measures that are incompatible with" international trade rules after a meeting Monday in the South African administrative capital of Pretoria. The foreign ministers say Trump's measures undermine global trade and economic growth. Trump has imposed tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from top U.S. trading partners, including Canada, Mexico and the European Union. He has threatened tariffs on up to $200 billion in Chinese imports, raising the potential for retaliation. Trump also says U.S. farmers have been treated "unfairly" and says "that will change."

Focus

AP

In this March 23, 2018 photo, Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team experts carefully spread out burned fragments at a lab in Cuauhtemoc, Mexico. The fragments are among the remains of tens of thousands of people who have simply disappeared in Mexico's long and bloody drug war.

Team studies bones to identify the disappeared in Mexico

By MARIA VERZA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CIUDAD CUAUHTEMOC, Mexico (AP)—A pair of rubber-gloved hands carefully separates the red "Evidence" tape from a paper bag and empties the contents onto a table. Hundreds of burnt bone fragments spill out.

The fragments look like bits of volcanic pumice. Yet for the hands that gently smooth them out over the table top, each one bears a name and holds a piece of a story that nobody knows, but that someone, somewhere is desperate to hear.

The fragments laid out by investigators for the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team are among the remains of tens of thousands of people who have simply disappeared in Mexico's long and bloody drug war. These particular bones come from one of three isolated ranches in the city of Cuauhtemoc in the northern border state of Chihuahua, where bodies of victims were dissolved or burned in drums. Nearby stand boxes and bags of other evidence bearing the names of the places and conditions in which they were found, such as "Dolores Ranch" and "(Bone) Fragments stained with diesel."

As President Enrique Pena Nieto prepares to leave office later this year, another administration has come and gone with little progress in solving one of Mexico's biggest problems: the disappeared. Distrust of Mexican authorities runs deep, and many families see the Argentine experts as the only ones to offer any answers to suffering that has stretched on for a decade or more.

In January, Mexico passed a "very important" law that introduces good methods for conducting searches and classifying crimes, said Ariel Dulitzky, director of the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Texas at Austin. But the law still needs funding and political will for enforcement, and it will only work together with a crackdown on corruption, he said.

Meanwhile, the disappearances continue: 21,286 during this administration so far since Dec. 1, 2012.

Cuauhtemoc, a rural hub that marks the entrance to the imposing Sierra Tarahumara mountains, has only 170,000 people, but is nicknamed "the capital of the disappeared" for its relatively high rate of abductions. The local state prosecutor's office has listed 676 disappearance cases in the region since 2008, and 395 are missing just within the city.

One of the largest cases is of the Munoz family, where eight people disappeared seven years ago.

The family doesn't gather much anymore at the old, tree-shaded railway workers' house on the outskirts of Cuauhtemoc. They were holding a Father's Day celebration there on June 21, 2011, when their world came crashing down.

In the afternoon, some strangers came around and threw out insults, according to family members. A fight broke out, and the family called police. Officers came but didn't do anything. One of the Munoz men took a radio from a patrol car and threw it out the window, sparking angry threats from the police, the family said.

A few hours later, a dozen pickup trucks with armed, uniformed men wearing ski masks turned up at the house. The men burst into the home and said they were looking for the radio.

"We all ran," said Emma Veleta, the family matriarch, standing next to a banner with the photos of her husband, four sons, a grandson and a nephew who were taken away that day. "Some went in one direction, some in another."

One of her sons held onto her and pleaded, "Mom, don't let them take me!" But it was useless. The women were tossed to the floor.

"It was here that they grabbed them out of my hands," Veleta said. "I never saw them again, I just heard their shouts."

They took eight men in all. The authorities have made little progress since in finding out what happened.

"They have forgotten us," said Albino Cruz, whose son Oscar disappeared that day. "We are going to die this way."

Cruz and his wife, Maribel Munoz, still live in the house, and sadness hangs over the whole family like a disease. Their 3-year-old daughter shows a photo of the last collateral victim of the disappearances: the Cruz's other son, who hanged himself in despair.

Disappearances in Mexico are rarely solved because corruption complicates investigations and encourages impunity. And resources are scarce. Experts say Mexico's levels of violence are similar to those found in war zones, but its forensics capacity is that of a nation at peace.

The federal government says it is working on laws and helping states to improve technical methods of dealing with disappearances. It hopes to eventually draw up a national database of the missing that can be cross-referenced with thousands of unidentified bodies.

Seven years after the Munoz disappearances, the only thing the family has found is a belt buckle that could have belonged to Toribio Munoz, Veleta's 61-year-old husband. A child recognized it among the thousands of charred fragments being analyzed by the Argentines. Local prosecutors wanted to close the case, but the family is still waiting for evidence, and the Argentine investigators are looking for a DNA match, or at least for some answers.

"Nothing has been proven," said Luisa Munoz, Toribio's sister and the mother of Luis Romo, then 21, who disappeared that day.

The family thinks the police were involved in the disappearances and that explains the state government's failure to act. Assistant state prosecutor Jesus Manuel Carrasco said the officers who were there that day have since left the force.

"We cannot dismiss the possibility that they directly participated, but there is no evidence for it," he said.

Disappearances in Mexico really started to take off in 2006, when President Felipe Calderon launched an offensive against the drug cartels. Victims' families were afraid to report the crimes, and authorities looked the other way and sometimes even directly cooperated, said Dulitzky.

A veil of silence fell over much of Mexico, including Cuauhtemoc.

The otherwise unremarkable city was valued for its routes into the mountains, a prime drug-growing area, and the Juarez and Sinaloa cartels started fighting over it. The city's businesses and its location, just 140 miles (350 kilometers) from the U.S. border, made it all the more attractive to export drug proceeds.

The city was "a perfect laundering machine," said Carrasco.

Both cartels infiltrated every level of the city through money and threats. People didn't appear dead on the streets, they simply disappeared. The lack of a corpse made the possibility of prosecution—always unlikely—almost nonexistent.

The families that did file crime reports were ignored, or harassed. Some decided to leave. Cartels are still fighting over Cuauhtemoc and people are still disappearing. But a federal law since January allows authorities to prosecute crimes even without a corpse.

The families hold out hope that the Argentine investigators can help, as they have done throughout Mexico for a decade. Authorities are not always fond of the internationally recognized experts because their very presence is evidence of official failures. However, the team always works with official permission so its results will be accepted in court, and one member is on a new advisory body to deal with disappearances.

In Cuauhtemoc, the Argentines came in only after Gov. Cesar Duarte—now accused of several crimes and on the run—left office in December 2016. They are trying to make the bones speak. State prosecutors had collected genetic samples to match fragments with several families, including the Munoz relatives, but the testing was never actually done.

The forensic team repeated the process with their own methods and standards, which included extensive interviews with families to find out any defining characteristics that could help in bone identification. They have made 13 identifications so far in the area, all from burned bone fragments found on rural ranches at the end of 2011.

The first identification was of Amir Gutierrez, a 33-year-old mechanic who disappeared in 2011. A vertebra turned out to be Amir's bone.

His mother, Idalia Gutierrez, talks about the moment the Argentine investigators told her they had a DNA match. It was difficult news to hear, but also a kind of relief.

"I wanted to find him, alive or dead," she said. "In my mind, I was telling myself, I cannot cry, I have to be calm, because if you cry you don't understand what they are explaining to you."

Mercedes Doretti, the head of the forensic team for Mexico and Central America, said the investigators prepare carefully to deliver such news to families, because it is a "tremendously difficult moment."

She said the only way to get a family's trust is to speak the truth, no matter how hard it is. The Argentines try to leave nothing unexamined, nothing to chance, so the family is left without doubts—even if there is nothing to bury.

"You don't want the identification to be an act of faith, but sometimes the bone fragments are so small, you can't physically give them anything," Doretti said. "Then there is an issue of trust."

In that sense, Gutierrez is lucky. She has a vertebra—and the hope that something more, some other little piece of Amir may come to light. When she has gathered all there is, she will bury it.

"He will have his funeral, as it should be," Gutierrez said. "After that, I will search no more."

In the last of the boxes from the Dolores Ranch, the gloved hands have chosen 109 fragments that may contain DNA or other useful information to be sent to a laboratory in Argentina.

The rest is carefully swept into an envelope, every last ash, and closed and sealed as evidence to be held safely.

Luisa Munoz doesn't want to lose hope, and will wait for the results of the latest round of testing. Her children in the United States want her to join them, but she doesn't want to leave her house and her little store in a dusty Cuauhtemoc neighborhood, in case one day Luis calls or returns.

Or in case one day, the Argentines give her a piece of bone that will make her cry.

Good Housekeeping

Blue My Mind offers rare clear blue all summer long

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

When I looked out the office window at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens toward our Rhythm and Blue's Garden I could tell there was an evolvulus performing like none I had ever seen. I was surprised too, as I felt like I was Mr. Evolvulus.

I say that 'tongue and cheek' as there is a very good chance you are wondering what in the world is an evolvulus. I am talking about the rarest blue flowers in the garden world, borne all summer on one of the toughest plants you'll ever grow.

Back in 1996 when I was with Mississippi State University and the coordinator of the Mississippi Medallion Award Program a variety called Blue Daze garnered the first award. A decade later Hawaiian Blue Eyes came out that was even better.

But this day looking out my window I could tell this one was even better. It was

TNS

Evolvulus or dwarf morning glory Blue My Mind has won awards across the United States for its superior performance in summer's heat.

TNS

Blue My Mind evolvulus and offers a rare blue color than stand out with the this Gold Mound duranta red begonia.

The Garden Bug
National Pollinator Week
The Pollinator Partnership is proud to announce that June 18-24, 2018 has been designated National Pollinator Week, which has grown into an international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles. Pollinators travel from plant to plant carrying pollen on their bodies, which allows the transfer of genetic material critical to the reproductive system of most flowering plants. – Brenda Weaver
Source: pollinator.org

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Blue My Mind, with larger flowers, more flowers, a deeper intensity of color and flowers persisting all day rather than closing.

Every day during our prolific heat and humidity these troopers performed beyond my wildest belief. Blue My Mind is considered a hybrid and the industry has tagged them with the name dwarf morning glory.

However, this plant has zero in common with the vining invasive morning glory other than being in the Convolvulaceae family. Think of it as a compact mounding bush 12 inches tall and adorned with uncountable icy blue flowers. At the J.C. Raulston Arboretum in North Carolina, it captured the top award for early summer, mid-summer, late summer and overall too. At the University of Georgia Trials, it won the Classic City Award in 2012.

Lest you think it just won in the South consider it was tops at Michigan State University, Ohio State University, University of Minnesota, Longwood Gardens and Texas A & M. That should pretty well convince you this plant is well worth your gardening dollar.

The botanical name Evolvulus means to untwist or not climb. Blue My Mind reaches about 12 inches tall spreading outward to around 24 inches. That's pretty special for a plant that is in the morning glory family. Space your plants 12 to 24 inches apart. This low growing form makes it the perfect plant for the front of the border.

TNS

Blue My Mind evolvulus excels in landscape or designer style mixed containers.

TNS

Blue My Mind evolvulus and Vermillionaire cuphea create a stunning partnership.

The icy light blue flowers are produced from spring until frost. The flowers aren't the only attribute. Blue My Mind has olive grey-green leaves that make it stand out when partnered with the more typical green leafed plants and combine wonderfully with others that are grey or silver leafed.

Blue My Mind is perfect for a variety of applications from hanging baskets to filler plants in mixed containers. Plant yours in a sunny location to the front of the border in early spring after the last frost. Since Blue My Mind has the ability to perform for a very long season it pays to prepare your bed properly.

Work in 3 to 4 inches of organic matter, along with 2 pounds of a slow release fertilizer like a 12-6-6 per 100 square feet of bed space. You might wonder why this is necessary for such a tough plant. The answer is drainage. Blue My Mind and other varieties of evolvulus do not like to sit in wet soggy conditions so good drainage is an absolute.

Not too many plants are this maintenance-free. Watering during dry periods and light monthly applications of fertilizer will keep your plants blooming until frost. No deadheading is needed.

If you have the need for clear icy blue in your garden or containers you can hardly do better than Blue My Mind evolvulus.

Life & Style

After 24 days out of sight, Melania Trump finally reappears

WASHINGTON (AP)—Finally, Melania Trump has reappeared.

After more than three weeks out of the public eye, the first lady strolled into a White House event Monday for military families and swept away the wild speculation that she was incapacitated or had otherwise vanished.

The White House did not allow journalists to cover the Gold Star event out of respect for the families, which meant Mrs. Trump was seen in person only by the 40 or so families and administration officials who attended. Others had to keep an eye on social media.

Video posted on Twitter showed the first lady, who wore a black sleeveless dress and her trademark stilettos, strolling into the East Room accompanied by President Donald Trump. He showed her to a front-row seat across the aisle from Vice President Mike Pence before heading to the microphone.

"She looked beautiful," said retired Sgt. 1st Class Diana Pike. Pike's son, Chief Petty Officer Christian Pike, of Peoria, Arizona, died in 2013 from injuries suffered in Afghanistan. "She just looked so beautiful."

Trump joked about all the speculation that his wife had supposedly left him but said she was doing fine, Pike said.

The first lady later tweeted several photos of the event, including two of her seated alongside the president.

Mrs. Trump was last seen publicly during the overnight hours of May 10 when she and the president welcomed home three Americans who had been detained in North Korea. Four days later, the White House announced that she had been hospitalized to treat a benign kidney condition.

Trump

The closest first lady parallel to Mrs. Trump's time out of the public spotlight is Bess Truman, who did few events as first lady because of discomfort around the media, said Anita McBride, a veteran of three Republican administrations who last served as chief of staff to first lady Laura Bush. Mrs. Truman also spent a lot of time in Missouri with her mother.

Nancy Reagan spent several weeks out of public view after a mastectomy, but continued to meet with staff and do other work behind the scenes.

Public interest in and news media coverage of first ladies exploded during the Obama administration, the first White House to extensively use social media to spread its brand, McBride said. But first ladies are not elected and technically are still private citizens, and each one gets to tailor the job to suit her.

"She is going to do this job her way," McBride said of Mrs. Trump. "It's her style and we just have to accept that."

Mrs. Trump stayed in the hospital for five days and has kept out of public view since returning home May 19. She has been meeting with staff and working on upcoming projects, according to spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham.

Exhibit explores country music's outlaws, poets and pickers

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—If the term "outlaw country" evokes images of Willie Nelson's hippie braids or Waylon Jennings' "Honky Tonk Heroes," then you'll want to see a new museum exhibit offering a deeper look at the poets, pickers and characters that revolutionized country music in the 1970s.

In the more than four decades since Nelson left Nashville in 1970, the term "outlaw" has become a profitable way of branding the scene that stretched from recording studios in Music City to hippies and rednecks in Austin, Texas.

But for the artists that experienced it firsthand, the movement was less about breaking laws and more about pushing back on traditional production techniques, wresting creative control from their labels and turning their focus to song craft.

"All of the main characters in the outlaw movement were poets, or if not, had the poet's soul," said Rodney Crowell, the Texas-born singer songwriter who came to Nashville in the '70s.

The "Outlaws and Armadillos: Country's Roaring '70s" exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, which opened last month and runs through 2021, features never-before-seen photos and interviews with iconic musicians from the era, unique memorabilia, instruments, stage costumes, original artwork and concert posters, as well as special programs and speakers. Displays include Kris Kristofferson's Army uniform, Guy Clark's Randall knife, Nelson's sneakers, a stuffed armadillo and a copper still for making bootleg whiskey that was donated by Tom T. Hall.

Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Rodney Crowell takes a tour of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum's new exhibition: "Outlaws & Armadillos: Country's Roaring '70s." (June 4)

Austin-based filmmaker Eric Geadelmann, a co-curator of the exhibit, put together videos for the exhibit's eight screens featuring interviews with Kristofferson, Clark, Jessi Colter, Jerry Jeff Walker, Billy Joe Shaver and more.

The exhibit's walls are lined with dozens of concert posters, many of them from illustrator Jim Franklin, who designed surrealistic artwork for concerts held at the Armadillo World Headquarters in Austin.

"Austin was grounded in red-dirt Texas music, but there was also psychedelia in the air," said Peter Cooper, one of the museum's curators.

The exhibit also emphasizes how radio station KOKE-FM and the longtime public television program "Austin City Limits," both helped promote the progressive country sounds.

"It was hippie girls and pot and endless places to play music live," Crowell said. "It was freedom from the constraints of the recording studio and three-hour sessions."

One iconic record of that period was a concept album dreamed up by Bobby Bare and Shel Silverstein, the Chicago-born poet, illustrator, author and songwriter. Bare was given carte blanche to come up with his own ideas in the studio and he wanted something different.

Q&A: Jodie Foster on 'Hotel Artemis,' turning down big jobs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Writer-director Drew Pearce hadn't even sent out the script for his futuristic, hospital-for-criminals thriller "Hotel Artemis" when Jodie Foster called asking to be part of it.

Foster said she's done that quite a few times: It's a strategy for finding the best roles. The 55-year-old actress said she tries to read everything written for a certain age range, male or female. That's how she became the first person to join "Hotel Artemis," in which she plays a 70-something nurse and proprietor of a hospital for the bad guys in a riot torn Los Angeles alongside Dave Bautista, Sterling K. Brown, Jeff Goldblum, Sofia Boutella, Jenny Slate and Charlie Day. The film hits theaters Friday.

Foster spoke to The Associated Press recently about the film, directing and the stigma of failure.

Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

In this May 20, 2018 photo, actress Jodie Foster poses at the Four Seasons Hotel in Los Angeles to promote her new film "Hotel Artemis." AP

AP: You haven't put yourself in front of the camera very often recently. What was it about this film besides the age range?

FOSTER: I just love the idea. I'd been looking for a while and I really was hell-bent on wanting something that felt like a full transformation.

AP: It's kind of unusual to have a woman of this age leading an action film.

FOSTER: I think it's great. I mean, why not? And it's funny because, I'm not sure I would call me an action hero, but I did a lot of movies with a lot of action in them and maybe I wasn't like a sheriff or a police man, but I was the girl carrying her daughter to safety with the explosion in the background, so it's fun to see me inhabit a movie like that but in a different capacity.

When people look back and they sum up my career and they say, "Well you played a strong woman in this movie and a strong woman in that movie and how'd you manage to do that?" And I'm like, "Uhhh, I don't know? I saw the script and I was drawn to it because that's who should fascinate me, she's who I should be interested in." I've never been interested in the girl who wears that jewelry so well or the wife of the interesting person. I wanted to be the central character.

AP: Do you have any directing projects coming up?

FOSTER: I don't. I'm happy just being open to something coming along that I love and I feel passionate about and I never know where that is going to take me. There's part of me that's really scared because I'm kind of a good student and like, what college do I go to next? But I think it's really good for me. It's really good for me to be humble and say like maybe I'm going to act on an iPhone. Why do I have to keep proving to everybody over and over again something that I did 25 years ago?

I believe that "The Beaver," for example, which I believe is my best movie and I know it's not for everybody, but I do think people will look back on that movie and will finally say "Oh I see, it's better than...." There was a lot of baggage that got hoisted onto the film. I feel like the film was really trying to say something important.

The truth about directing is I don't really care, because, I got to make a movie that I love. And that is such a pleasure in itself that that really is the greatest reward. So I don't really take a lot of offense about how it is received. I've learned to shrug my shoulders and go "I'm sorry you didn't like it" but I did my best. With acting it's harder to do that because you're not in charge.

AP: Have you ever been approached to direct a big tent pole?

Foster: Yes. And I've said no, and not because I'm so great. It's because I just had a different idea of what I wanted my career to be as a director. It's not because I'm too good for it. I just had a path I wanted to follow with my signature. And I'm not as interested in the abstract goal of being successful. It's not popular to say, so I'm careful, because sometimes things get taken out of context, but you know, yes women have not had the same opportunities as men in terms of directing big franchise movies. But when a woman finally is able to direct a movie and become a director, after all the struggles you have to go through, when they're finally able to have a career, it's sometimes hard for them to go "Ok I'll just sell out." You're like, "No, wait I've struggled my whole life to get here. And I want to have a signature. I don't want to just sell out immediately." I think sometimes it's easier with guys. It's almost easier for them to rationalize, because they're always going to get another job and they're always going to have another career.

It's interesting because, and I don't think it was a secret with "Hunger Games" but they really, really, really wanted a female director. They went after everyone. And people were like, "Yeah, that's not what I want to do with my life." And it was kind of an interesting reckoning.

I'm not against franchises. "Aliens 2" is fantastic. There's a way of doing them but you've got to beat all the odds and a woman doesn't very often—and this is true as an actress as well—get a second shot. So you don't get the opportunity to fail and then somebody puts their hand out and goes, come on we love you. That doesn't happen. You come to understand that failure can be very meaningful for you ... Often you're smarter to go a different way.

Harvey Weinstein due back in court in sex crimes case

NEW YORK (AP)—Harvey Weinstein is scheduled to be arraigned on Tuesday in New York on rape and criminal sex act charges.

The hearing in Manhattan comes after a grand jury indicted the former movie mogul last week on charges involving two women.

One alleged victim, who has not been identified publicly, told investigators that Weinstein cornered her in a hotel room and raped her. The other accuser, former actress Lucia Evans, has gone public with her account of Weinstein forcing her to perform oral sex at his office in 2004. The Associated Press does not identify alleged victims of sexual assaults unless they come forward publicly.

Dozens more women have accused him of sexual misconduct ranging from harassment to assault.

The 66-year-old Weinstein has denied all allegations of nonconsensual sex. His lawyer, Benjamin Brafman, has challenged the credibility of his alleged victims and says his client is confident he is going to clear his name.

Brafman called the rape allegation "absurd," saying that the accuser and Weinstein had a decadelong, consensual sexual relationship that continued after the alleged 2013 attack.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr. has said it was predictable that Weinstein's camp would attack the integrity of the women and of the legal system.

Vance, a Democrat, came under public pressure from women's groups to prosecute Weinstein after declining to do so in 2015, when an Italian model went to police to say Weinstein had groped her during a meeting.

Police set up a sting in which the woman recorded herself confronting Weinstein and him apologizing for his conduct. But Vance decided there was not enough evidence to bring charges.

Weinstein is out on $1 million bail.

In this May 25, 2018, file photo, Harvey Weinstein arrives at the first precinct while turning himself to authorities following allegations of sexual misconduct in New York. AP

Designer Raf Simons wins yet again at fashion's CFDA awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Designer Raf Simons scored a repeat win at fashion's glittery awards ceremony Monday night, again displaying his considerable influence in American fashion less than two years after taking the reins at Calvin Klein.

"Thank you, women!" Simons said, accepting the prestigious womenswear prize of the Council of Fashion Designers of America from presenter actress Cate Blanchett. It was actually the Belgian designer's third CFDA award in two years; last year he won for menswear, too.

The CFDA awards are fashion's answer to the Oscars, and a slew of celebrities were on hand at Monday's ceremony at the Brooklyn Museum,' hosted by TV's Issa Rae—who pointed out she was the first person of color to host the annual event, and the first woman since 2009. Presenters included Oprah Winfrey, Lupita Nyong'o, Trevor Noah and Claire Danes, among many others.

One of the biggest draws of the night was Kim Kardashian West, who came—in a midriff-baring, clingy white ensemble by Rick Owens—to collect the inaugural Influencer award. "I'm kind of shocked that I'm winning a fashion award when I'm naked most of the time," she quipped, before going on to tell the story of the publicist she'd hired seven years ago who told her she'd never achieve her goal of making the cover of a fashion magazine.

"Let's find some more realistic goals," Kardashian West said the publicist told her. When she later made the cover of Vogue, she noted, she made sure to send the publicist an autographed copy.

This year's menswear winner was the streetwear label Supreme. "I never considered Supreme a fashion brand or myself a fashion designer," said its founder, James Jebbia, accepting the honor. And the award for accessory design went to perennial winners Ashley and Mary-Kate Olsen, and their label The Row.

Veteran supermodel Naomi Campbell gave the evening's most stirring speech as she received the Fashion Icon award—dressed, aptly, in a deep red, fringed number by Simons at Calvin Klein. She was introduced by Lee Daniels, who directed her in "Empire" and "Star." Daniels praised her efforts toward diversity in fashion and her philanthropic work, and also told her: "I'm sober because of you. I thank you for saving my life."

Iconic American designer Ralph Lauren received a new award, the CFDA Members Salute; CFDA chairman Diane von Furstenberg noted that the 78-year-old designer had won so many awards, they needed to invent a new one. Lauren, who wore faded blue jeans with his tuxedo jacket and bow tie, listened as a series of designers lauded him, including Vera Wang, Michael Kors, Tommy Hilfiger, Donna Karan and Alexander Wang.

"This is not the end," Lauren told the crowd. "This is the beginning of fashion."

Designer Carolina Herrera, who stepped down from the creative helm of her label earlier this year, received the Founder's Award, presented by Caroline Kennedy. Kennedy described how Herrera had made her a memorable wedding gown and recently did the same for her daughter, Tatiana. She also spoke of Herrera's relationship with her mother, Jackie Kennedy.

"Together they took over New York," Kennedy said. "They didn't talk about it, they just did it by looking better than everyone else."

Winfrey presented the Media Award to Edward Enninful, the Ghana-born editor in chief of British Vogue, who declared: "British Vogue is about being inclusive." American designer Narciso Rodriguez choked up frequently as he accepted the Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by Danes, who told the crowd how when she wears his designs, "I always feel the most like myself." Nyong'o presented the International Award to Donatella Versace.

Von Furstenberg was awarded the Swarovski Award for Positive Change, presented by Delaney Tarr, a student at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Von Furstenberg noted that Tarr had just graduated high school the day before, and that she now is old enough to vote.

"But actually, I want Delaney to run," the designer said.

Woody Allen: I should be the poster face for #MeToo movement

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Woody Allen says he should be the face of the #MeToo movement in terms of what to do right.

In an interview that was broadcast Sunday night, Allen said he's a "big advocate" of #MeToo, and once again denied allegations that he molested Dylan Farrow, his adopted daughter.

"It's funny, I should be the poster boy for the #Metoo movement because I've worked in movies for 50 years, I've worked with hundreds of actresses...and not a single one, big ones, famous ones, have ever, ever, suggested any kind of impropriety at all," he told Argentine journalist Jorge Lanata in New York.

"I'm in principle, and in spirit, completely in favor of their bringing to justice genuine harassers," Allen said during the interview with Argentina's Channel 13.

Allen

"Now, if innocent ones get swept up in there, that's very sad for the person, it's unjust, but otherwise, I think it's a very good thing to expose harassment."

Farrow, Allen's daughter, in 2014 renewed the claim that Allen molested her in an attic in 1992 when she was 7-years-old. Allen, who has long denied the allegations, was investigated for the incident but not charged. Farrow has previously questioned why the #MeToo movement hasn't ensnarled Allen.

Earlier this year, Mira Sorvino published a public apology to Farrow, saying she was sorry for "turning a blind eye" to Farrow's accusations against Allen. She also vowed never to work with him again. Sorvino starred in Allen's "Mighty Aphrodite."

Other actors have also distanced themselves from Allen, raising questions about the future of the prolific filmmaker in an industry sensitive to allegations of sexual misconduct in the midst of a #MeToo reckoning.

"What bothers me is that I get linked in with them," Allen said. "People who have been accused by 20 women, 50 women, 100 women of abuse, and abuse, and abuse, and I, who was only accused by one woman, in a child custody case, which was looked at, and proven to be untrue, I get lumped in with these people."

Griffin to be honored by West Hollywood for LGBTQ activism

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Kathy Griffin will be honored Tuesday by West Hollywood for raising more than $5 million for HIV/AIDS services and LGBTQ causes.

The city will present Griffin with a Rainbow Key Award as part of an annual ceremony honoring individuals who have made contributions to the LGBTQ community.

Griffin is in the midst of a comeback following the uproar after she posed for a photo shoot while holding a fake severed Donald Trump head in May 2017.

Griffin apologized, but later retracted it.

The comedian addressed the fallout of the image, which included death threats and lost jobs, in an interview with The Associated Press in April before she embarked on a North American tour.

West Hollywood is a city of 36,000 between Los Angeles' Hollywood neighborhood and Beverly Hills.

Lawyers for Trump, 'Apprentice' entrant in court over suit

NEW YORK (AP)—Lawyers for President Donald Trump and a former "Apprentice" contestant who sued the president for saying her sexual misconduct claims were lies are due in court in New York.

Tuesday's court date is the first since a Manhattan judge turned down Trump's bid to dismiss Summer Zervos' defamation lawsuit or delay it until after his presidency. The case is proceeding, while his lawyers appeal that decision.

The court appearance likely will focus on scheduling, but lawyers could bring up other issues. Neither Trump nor Zervos is required to be there in person.

Zervos, a California restaurateur, appeared in 2006 on Trump's former reality show, "The Apprentice." She says he subjected her to unwanted kissing and groping when she sought career advice in 2007.

She was among more than a dozen women who came forward late in the 2016 presidential campaign to say that Trump had sexually harassed or assaulted them.

The Republican denied all of the claims, saying they were "100 percent fabricated" and "totally false" and his accusers were "liars." He specifically contested Zervos' allegations in a statement and retweeted a message that included her photo and described her claims as a "hoax."

Zervos says his words hurt her reputation, harmed her business and led to threats against her. She is seeking a retraction, an apology and compensatory and punitive damages.

Trump's attorneys have said his statements were true, and also that his remarks were "non-defamatory opinions" that came amid the heated public debate of a national political campaign.

They also argue that a sitting president cannot be sued in a state court.

Jimmy Fallon thanks Parkland students for schooling world

SUNRISE, Fla. (AP)—The surprise commencement speaker at the Florida high school where a gunman killed 17 people in February was Jimmy Fallon, who said he wanted to thank the students personally for their courage and bravery.

"Most commencement speakers get up and talk in future tense: 'You will succeed. You will make us proud, you will change the world,' the "Tonight Show" host said. "But I'm not going to say that, because you're not the future. You're the present. ... You are succeeding, you are making us proud."

Fallon joked about his own less-than-stellar high school performance—it took having to go to summer school to find "my people," he said—before telling the students that they're already proven how setbacks can "change us in ways we don't expect, and make us better, and stronger."

AP

People leave a graduation ceremony for Marjory Stoneman Douglas seniors, Sunday, June 3, 2018, in Sunrise, Fla.

"You guys have already proved that to everyone. You took something horrific and instead of letting it stop you, you started a movement. Not just here in Florida and not just in America, but throughout the whole world," he said. "That was you, choosing to take something awful and using it to make a change. That was you, choosing hope over fear."

"Keep making good choices," he added. "I'm not saying that because you need to learn it; I'm saying it because you've already taught it to all of us."

Graduate Shannon Recor said afterward that Fallon "made us laugh and cry."

"He brought a positive energy—I'm glad he came," Recor said.

Four families received diplomas on behalf of the seniors killed in the attack that gave rise to the "March for our Lives" movement for gun control: Nicholas Dworet, Joaquin Oliver, Meadow Pollack and Carmen Schentrup. Graduate Chris Grady said their families received standing ovations when they walked on stage; Oliver's mom wore a T-shirt that said, "This should be my son."

The private ceremony for the nearly 800 members of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School class of 2018 was held Sunday at the BB&T Center, where the National Hockey League's Florida Panthers play.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Sara Gilbert says she still supports 'Roseanne' cancellation

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sara Gilbert says she's saddened about how "Roseanne" ended, but still supports ABC's decision to cancel the show over Roseanne Barr's racist tweet. Gilbert said Monday while hosting the CBS daytime show "The Talk" that "Roseanne" "has always been about diversity, love and inclusion." The comments expanded on Gilbert's statement last week about the show's cancellation. She also said a lot of people have been hurt as a result of Roseanne Barr's tweet, which likened former Obama adviser Valerie Jarrett to a product of the Muslim Brotherhood and "Planet of the Apes." Gilbert, an executive producer on the rebooted series, says it's sad to see how the show ended. Kantar Media says "Roseanne" earned an estimated $45 million in advertising revenue for ABC through its recent nine episode run.

Top fashion awards honor Raf Simons, Supreme

NEW YORK (AP)—Designers Raf Simons and the streetwear label Supreme have taken top honors at the annual Council of Fashion Designers of America awards. The CFDA awards are fashion's answer to the Oscars, and a slew of celebrities were on hand at Monday's ceremony at the Brooklyn Museum. TV's Issa Rae hosted the event, and Cate Blanchett and Trevor Noah were among the presenters. Simons of Calvin Klein won for womenswear, and skating line Supreme for menswear. A highlight of the evening was the appearance of Kim Kardashian West, who was given a special Fashion Influencer award. Supermodel Naomi Campbell received the annual Fashion Icon award, and iconic American designer Ralph Lauren a special tribute honoring his 50th anniversary in fashion. Carolina Herrera and Donatella Versace were also honored.

Laura Prepon and Ben Foster have tied the knot

NEW YORK (AP)—"Orange Is the New Black" actress Laura Prepon is married. The 38-year-old tweeted a photo and announced on Sunday that she and 37-year-old actor Ben Foster had tied the knot. Prepon thanked everyone for "all the love and support." The couple got engaged in 2016. They had their first child, a girl, last August.

Military marriage suffers from frequent separation

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are both active duty military. We have been married for three years and have an 18-month-old daughter together. My husband is sweet, handsome and a great father. We got married very quickly, and I think that's where our problems began.

He isn't good at communication or showing affection, which leaves me feeling lonely. This, on top of being separated several times due to the military, makes for a very shaky marriage. I have cheated on him with eight different people since our wedding. The affair I am most ashamed of was when I was pregnant with our daughter.

I'm currently in counseling, but I'm still unable to curb my cravings. He always forgives me and allows us to continue being married. The problem is, I don't know if he's really the one for me. I know cheating is wrong and that I'm not only hurting him, but my daughter as well.

Should we divorce? Or should we continue trying to be together? We have talked about marriage counseling, but we are separated so much it makes it hard to get into a good groove.

IS HE THE ONE FOR ME?

DEAR IS HE: I'm glad you're in counseling because it's where you need to be right now. The questions you are asking me are ones you should be raising with your therapist.

Separation is part of a military marriage. I agree that for you and your husband to fix what's wrong with your marriage, he will need to be present and accounted for. I do not think you should make any decision about divorce until he returns from his deployment. But I DO think that until he's back, if you cannot "curb your cravings," you should take every precaution you can against STDs.

DEAR ABBY: I divorced my wife eight years ago. But she still takes every opportunity to make me look bad in front of her family and mine.

I met someone recently, and we care deeply for each other. There are no marriage plans for the future, but I don't want to keep our relationship a secret. I'm reluctant to tell the family about her because of the fallout it may create, and for fear that my son and daughter may prevent me from seeing my grandchildren. My new lady is 19 years my junior, which won't help the situation. I am at a loss about what to do. Can you help?

PANIC IN PITTSBURGH

DEAR PANIC: Eight years after your divorce it should surprise no one that you have finally met someone. Because your ex-wife's pattern of behavior all this time has been to try to make you look bad, your family should recognize it for what it is—the reaction of an unhappy and bitter woman who would probably do the same thing even if you entered a monastery.

Live your life and don't let it be ruled by fear. You divorced your ex eight years ago, but fear is the ball and chain by which she still controls you.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend who uses her elderly mother's handicap placard to park in handicap spots even when her mother is not in the car. My friend is able-bodied. I think this is wrong. Handicap parking spots should be reserved for people who truly need them. When she offers to drive me somewhere, how should I handle it?

UNSURE IN CLEVELAND

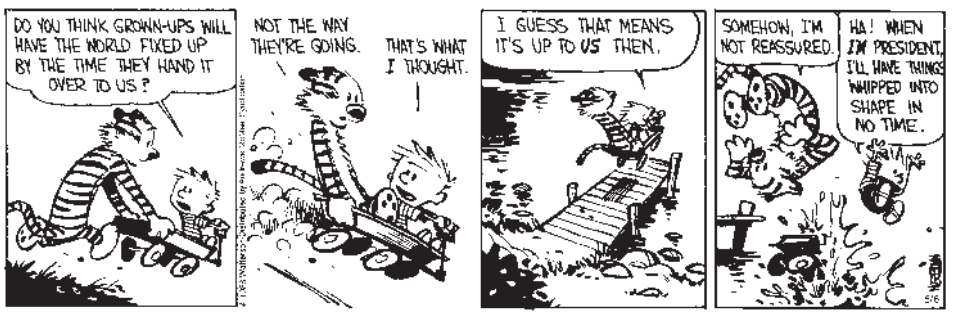
DEAR UNSURE: A way to handle it would be to tell your friend how you feel about what she's doing and refuse to let her park in the handicap zone, or insist on doing the driving.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


DO YOU THINK GROWN-UPS WILL HAVE THE WORLD FIXED UP BY THE TIME THEY HAND IT OVER TO US?
NOT THE WAY THEY'RE GOING.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
I GUESS THAT MEANS IT'S UP TO US THEN.
SOMEHOW, I'M NOT REASSURED.
HA! WHEN I'M PRESIDENT, I'LL HAVE THINGS WHIPPED INTO SHAPE IN NO TIME.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I LOVE OUR POOL. BUT I WISH IT WAS DEEPER.
RIGHT?
IT'S HARD TO SNORKEL IN NINE INCHES OF WATER.
I MEAN, YOU CAN DO IT, BUT, YOU KNOW...
IT'S LESS FUN WHEN YOUR NOSE KEEPS SCRAPING THE BOTTOM.
AND DON'T GET ME STARTED ON CANNONBALLS!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

IT'S A LETTER FROM P.E.T.A.
OH, THOSE ANIMAL RIGHTS PEOPLE. WHAT DO THEY WANT?
THEY'RE CHECKING TO SEE IF I'M SUFFERING AT THE HANDS OF YOUR OPPRESSIVE HUMAN PRIVILEGE.
YOU'RE ONE PHONE CALL AWAY FROM BEING PROTESTED BY FIVE PEOPLE IN DOG COSTUMES.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

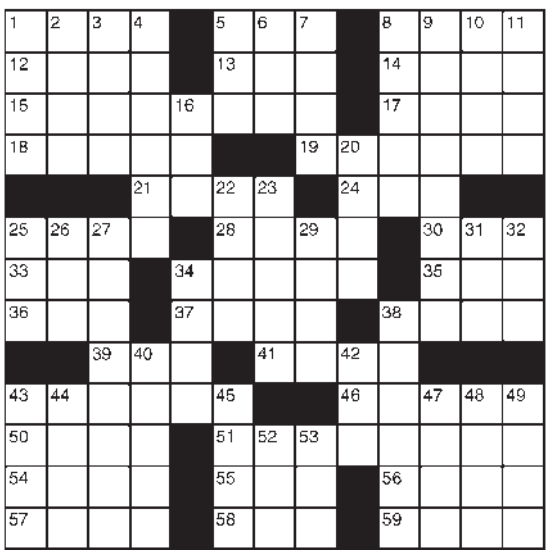
ACROSS
1 Facts and figures
5 "Humbug!"
8 Track shape
12 Like some vaccines
13 Ostrich's kin
14 Olympian queen
15 Not paraphrased
17 Four Corners st.
18 Thoreau piece
19 Spoof
21 Astronaut Armstrong
24 Stock holder
25 Dark blue
28 Miami- — County
30 "Big Blue"
33 Citrus drink
34 Wrinkle-reducing injection
35 Prompt
36 Scratch
37 Yale students
38 Gunshot sound
39 Chowed down
41 Close
43 Cantankerous
46 Audition goals
50 Style
51 Martini ingredient
54 Mosque leader
55 Actress Mendes
56 Social appointment
57 Hardy heroine
58 Stitch
59 Took to court

DOWN
1 Peace symbol
2 War god
3 Old salts
4 New York's capital
5 Wager
6 "— Blue?"
7 Camel feature
8 Chicago airport
9 Archie's girlfriend
10 Saharan
11 Indolent
16 Sailor's assent
20 Pinnacle
22 "American —"
23 Classical language
25 '60s war zone
26 Nabokov novel
27 Porches
29 Prescribed amount
31 Chignon
32 "Family Guy" daughter
34 Tavern order
38 Worries
40 Abounds
42 Branch
43 Skip
44 Apple variety
45 Saint Laurent of fashion
47 Maui meal
48 Diminutive suffix
49 Lean-to
52 Prior night
53 Cold and damp

Solution time: 23 mins.

D	A	D	A	■	■	R	I	B	■	R	A	T	S
O	R	E	S	■	■	A	N	I	■	E	L	I	E
W	E	A	K	L	I	N	K	■	■	V	O	I	E
■	■	■	I	O	N	■	E	D	I	T	O	H	■
D	A	W	N	S	■	■	B	L	U	E	■	■	■
A	L	E	G	■	■	H	O	C	D	W	I	N	K
J	S	B	■	■	S	A	U	C	E	■	D	I	A
B	O	B	O	L	I	N	K	■	■	F	O	N	T
■	■	■	■	F	O	R	D	■	A	L	L	E	Y
C	H	A	N	E	L	■	■	E	L	O	■	■	■
R	O	M	O	■	■	I	N	J	I	A	I	N	K
O	B	I	T	■	■	N	O	G	■	T	R	I	O
P	O	S	E	■	■	E	W	E	■	S	A	P	S

Yesterday's answer 6-6



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Aubrey Anderson-Emmons, 11; Natalie Morales, 46; Paul Giamatti, 51; Robert Englund, 71.

Happy Birthday: Use your intelligence when faced with confusion or uncertainty. If someone tries to point you in the wrong direction, ask questions, show strength of character and be willing to head in whatever direction suits you best. Emotional mind games should not be allowed to influence your decisions or your plans. Stay on track, no matter what others do. Your numbers are 4, 15, 21, 28, 34, 37, 44.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Communication is your best bet. If you let others make assumptions, you will end up being blamed for something you didn't do. Use your ability to research and fact-find to help you counter anyone trying to make you look bad. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* One step at a time. You may be tempted to take a leap of faith, but before you make a sudden move, consider the consequence if something goes wrong. Time is on your side, and hasty decisions will lead to regret. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Understand what you are getting into before you offer help. You'll end up getting stuck with a job that will conflict with the way your feel or the time you have allotted to taking care of your own responsibilities. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Add spice to your life. Think outside the box and offer your point of view. Honor your beliefs and live life your way. Be open and share your ideas and concerns, but allow others the same privilege. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* If you want something, go after it. Don't wait for someone else to do the work. Live up to your promises. Recognize what you want, but live within your means. Today is about balance, integrity and making things right. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Truth will matter. Elaborating is fine, as long as you don't lose sight of the facts while trying to entice others with your presentation. Live up to your standards, rules and beliefs. Change comes with honesty and faith, not deception. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Learn as you go, and put more energy behind getting things done right the first time. Don't limit what you can do because someone gives you a hard time. Learn to say no to those asking for too much. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Make personal changes that will make a statement regarding what you stand for. Don't back down; show the world what you have to offer and how you plan to reach your goal. The time for positive change is now. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Question your motives before putting demands on someone or trying to convince others to do things your way. Be honest about your intentions, and question those who come on too strong. Communication is mandatory. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Consider investments and how best to make your money work for you. A change in the way you invest or handle your cash will encourage a higher standard of living, less stress and a positive change in your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't be fooled by what others say or ask for. Stick close to home, and take care of your personal situation before you offer help to outsiders, or someone will try to take advantage of you. Communication and intelligence are your strengths. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Emotional manipulation will help you get your way. Your ability to push the envelope and get others to buy into what you say will bring about positive change, but only for so long. Truth must be upheld to ensure long-term success. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, insightful and entertaining. You are expressive and persistent.

(To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.)

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5	9			8	6	
	8				1			7
1					8			2
8						5	1	4
4								3
2	9	3						8
7			8					9
5			4				2	
	1	4			6	7		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	7	2	5	8	1	3	6	4
1	5	4	6	3	9	8	7	2
8	3	6	2	4	7	1	5	9
7	1	8	4	5	6	2	9	3
4	2	9	7	1	3	6	8	5
5	6	3	9	2	8	4	1	7
2	9	7	8	6	4	5	3	1
6	4	1	3	7	5	9	2	8
3	8	5	1	9	2	7	4	6

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/6

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DUNCE CAPS AREN'T USED ANYMORE! **Solution: 9 letters**

I	Y	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	I	N	E	Z	I	S
N	G	E	S	D	N	L	O	G	I	C	N	W	N	C
C	O	N	C	H	I	O	C	D	A	Y	O	I	T	O
A	L	M	O	O	F	O	G	F	O	R	Z	Z	E	T
P	O	J	T	M	N	N	C	C	D	W	A	A	L	T
A	E	R	U	E	I	F	N	Y	H	(H)	N	R	L	I
B	H	E	S	N	L	N	L	I	B	I	(A)	D	I	S
L	T	P	R	L	O	P	I	I	A	A	L	(T)	G	H
E	H	A	D	R	O	F	X	O	C	R	Y	D	E	O
C	E	P	W	I	H	B	B	S	U	T	T	U	N	M
L	A	Y	N	I	C	A	M	R	E	S	I	N	C	E
A	D	T	I	R	S	E	U	Y	E	S	C	S	E	W
S	Y	I	A	E	A	E	D	T	S	H	A	M	E	O
S	A	P	R	R	A	L	O	H	C	S	L	E	S	R
S	D	A	B	P	U	N	I	S	H	M	E	N	T	K

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Analytical, Bad, Base, Brain, Child, Class, Cone, Conflict, Discipline, Down, Dumb, Dunsmen, Face, Fool, Hat, Head, Homework, Idiocy, Ignominious, Incapable, Intelligence, John, Lazy, Learning, Logic, Notes, Oxford, Paper, Pity, Pointy, Punishment, Scholar, School, Scottish, Scotus, Shame, Size, Smear, Symbol, Tease, Theology, Train, Wise, Wizard, Word, Zone

Yesterday's Answer: Inhibit

Treasuries 13 through 29 can be purchased on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP18-DCCA/HPO-096

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 20, 2018 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN: FY2017-FY2022 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP CAN BE MADE IN ANY MODE OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION TO **MR. ROBERT H. HUNTER, SECRETARY**, VIA FACSIMILE TO (670) 234-3755 OR VIA E-MAIL TO roberthhunter@gmail.com OR **MR. JAMES R. PRUITT, STAFF ACHEOLOGIST** VIA E-MAIL TO jpruitt.cnmihpo@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., JUNE 14, 2018**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70.30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

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Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#18-002: **Media Marketing Specialist I**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#18-003: **Procurement Officer**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

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Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition for the Change of Name of: C. D. C. H. Minor child By: Sharon G. Cabrera Petitioner) FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0220 **NOTICE OF HEARING**

FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0220
NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 16, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A, before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 25th day of May, 2018.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Shi Feng
PMB 1821 Box 10002
Saipan, MP 96950
1 670-588-2778

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Scott Shi Shi Feng Plaintiff vs. Zheng Ying Defendant) FCD PA CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0211 **SUMMONS**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Shi Feng, whose mailing address is PMB 1821 Box 10002 Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for the relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 18th day of May, 2018.

/s/
Clerk of Court
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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No showdown: Serena pulls out due to injury

AP

In this photo provided by the French Tennis Federation (FFT) Serena Williams answers journalists at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Monday, June 4, 2018. Williams called off her Grand Slam comeback because of a chest muscle injury on Monday, pulling out of the French Open shortly before she was supposed to play Maria Sharapova in the fourth round.

PARIS (AP)—Serena Williams tried to play through the pain of an injured chest muscle. Eventually, barely able to serve, she knew she had to call off her Grand Slam comeback.

Williams pulled out of the French Open less than an hour before she was supposed to face Maria Sharapova in a fourth-round showdown Monday, the most-anticipated match of the tournament so far. The announcement came two days after the 36-year-old American initially felt something was wrong during a singles victory. But she hid that bit of information—even from her coach—and a day after Williams struggled through a doubles loss with her sister, Venus.

This was Williams' first major tournament in 16 months, and her first as a mother. She was pregnant when she won the Australian Open in January 2017 for her 23rd Grand Slam singles championship, the most for anyone during tennis' 50-year professional era. Her baby was born last September.

"I have given up so much to be here. There is times where I'm on the court and I'm practicing, and I look on the monitor, and I see my daughter and she's playing, and I want to be there," Williams said. "But I know that these are the sacrifices you have to make to live out your dream. And I have made every sacrifice that I could. So it's extremely disappointing."

Her voice trembled a bit during a brief news conference, where she explained she will get an MRI on Tuesday and consult with doctors before figuring out what comes next. Her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, said in an interview that an ultrasound revealed the injury to the muscle, but the extent wasn't clear.

"The fact that I physically can't serve at all is a good indication that maybe I should just go back to the drawing board and stay positive," Williams said, "and try to get better and not get it to a point where it could be a lot worse."

In a statement released by the tournament, Sharapova wished Williams "a speedy recovery." This would have been their 22nd career meeting; Williams has won 19, including the past 18. Because of the withdrawal, this does not count as a victory for Sharapova, who will play 2016 French Open champion Garbine Muguruza on Wednesday.

Oddly enough, Muguruza didn't have to put forth much effort in the fourth round, either. Her opponent, Lesia Tsurenko, stopped because of an injury after only two games.

No. 1 Simona Halep, a two-time runner-up at Roland Garros, will play former No. 1 Angelique Kerber, a two-time major champion elsewhere, in Wednesday's other quarterfinal after both picked up easy straight-set wins in the fourth round.

The quarterfinals Tuesday are Sloane Stephens vs. Daria Kasatkina, and Madison Keys vs. Yulia Putintseva. Kasatkina eliminated Australian Open champion Caroline Wozniacki 7-6 (5), 6-3 in a match that resumed Monday after being suspended a night earlier because of darkness at 3-all in the second set.

The day's biggest buzz was about a match that never took place.

Williams said she first was troubled by her pectoral muscle during the best performance of her return, a 6-3, 6-4 win in the third round against 11th-seeded Julia Goerges on Saturday. But Mouratoglou had no idea there was an issue.

She didn't tell him she was hurting?

"No, because she knew I would tell her not to play the doubles," he told the AP. "I would have made her cancel the doubles, believe me."

During Sunday's doubles, though, Williams showed signs of trouble. By the third set, she hit first serves at about 80 mph (130 kph), about 40 mph (70 kph) slower than she can. Between points, she repeatedly jabbed a thumb into her chest to massage the muscle.

"At the end, she was just pushing the ball... That's when I knew she had a problem. I didn't know what kind of problem, but I knew there was something really wrong," Mouratoglou said. "Basically, she couldn't play."

Williams tried taping up the muscle for doubles, but that didn't help. And while she's "pretty much had every injury in the book," this was the first time dealing with this particular malady.

Serena didn't tell her coach she was injured before she played doubles with her sister, Venus.

Nadal advances

Defending champion Rafael Nadal has again reached the French Open quarterfinals in his bid for a record-extending 11th title at Roland Garros.

The top-ranked Spaniard beat unseeded Maximilian Marterer 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 (4). He has yet to drop a set at this year's tournament.

Nadal patted Marterer sympathetically on the chest at the net after winning on his second match point.

Nadal will next play 11th-seeded Diego Schwartzman, who rallied to beat Kevin Anderson 1-6, 2-6, 7-5, 7-6 (0), 6-2.

Anderson twice served for the match, at 5-4 in the third and fourth sets.

Judge sets doubleheader K record as Yanks, Tigers split

DETROIT (AP)—Yankees slugger Aaron Judge became the first player to record eight strikeouts in a doubleheader, including five punchouts in the nightcap as the Detroit Tigers beat New York 4-2 for a day-night split Monday.

Leonys Martin had two hits and scored twice for Detroit in the second game after New York took the opener 7-4 behind eight strong innings from Luis Severino (9-1) and a six-run fourth inning.

Judge struck out eight times in nine at-bats, the most in a doubleheader since strikeouts for hitters were first recorded in 1910 for the NL and 1913 in the AL, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Judge struck out in each of his five at-bats in the late game, including with a runner aboard in the bottom of the ninth.

The five strikeouts were a career high for Judge, who led the majors with 208 strikeouts while winning AL Rookie of the Year last season.

The doubleheader made up rainouts from April 14 and 15. Both teams wore No. 42 for the second game because they were making up their postponed Jackie Robinson Day showdown.

Angels 9, Royals 6

In Anaheim, Mike Trout had three hits, including a tie-breaking RBI single in the eighth inning, and Los Angeles beat Kansas City.

Trout scored three runs and drove in two, Justin Upton and Albert Pujols also had two RBI, and Jefry Marte hit a solo home run to help the Angels improve to 4-0 against the Royals this season. Los Angeles has scored at least five runs in each of those wins.

Tim Hill (1-2) couldn't handle the bouncing comeback up the middle from Trout, and the ball had enough on it to carry to center field and allow Maldonado to score for the 7-6 lead. Upton and Pujols each added run-scoring singles to add to the lead.

Giants 10, Diamondbacks 3

In San Francisco Andrew McCutchen and Brandon Crawford opened a seven-run fourth inning with back-to-back home runs, and San Francisco got back to .500 on the season by beating first-place Arizona.

Pinch-hitter Alen Hanson and Buster Posey each added two-run doubles in the big inning to help the Giants win their fifth straight game to move within 1 1/2 games of the Diamondbacks in the NL West. Pablo Sandoval and Nick Hundley also homered for the Giants.

Padres 11, Braves 4

In San Diego, Cory Spangenberg homered and tripled, Raffy Lopez had a homer among his career-high three hits and Eric Hosmer and Franmil Reyes also went deep to lead San Diego.

Clayton Richard (4-6) pitched seven strong innings for the Padres, who have won six of seven and remain in last place in the NL West.

Auburn right-hander Mize drafted first

SECAUCUS, N.J. (AP)—Casey Mize went from undrafted three years ago all the way to No. 1.

The Detroit Tigers selected the Auburn right-hander with the first pick in the Major League Baseball draft Monday night. The announcement at MLB Network studios marked the second time the Tigers led off the draft, and first since they took Rice pitcher Matt Anderson in 1997.

The 6-foot-3, 220-pound Mize had long been linked to the Tigers, and this season he pitched his way to the top spot on the board. Mize wasn't chosen by any organization out of high school three years ago, but developed into a potential big league ace while in college.

"It means a ton," he said in an interview on MLB Network's broadcast. "I can't describe this feeling right now."

Mize is 10-5 with a 2.95 ERA and 151 strikeouts with just 12 walks in 109 2/3 innings while helping the Tigers to the NCAA Tournament super regionals. He has outstanding command of four pitches, including a fastball that hovers in the mid-90s (mph), and his wicked split changeup creates lots of swings and misses.

Mize became the seventh player to go from undrafted in high school to the No. 1 pick, and first since Stephen Strasburg went to the Washington Nationals in 2009.

In a statement, Tigers general manager Al Avila said the club is confident Mize "will become a pillar in our player development system that's going to bring winning baseball to Detroit for seasons to come."

"Being a college pitcher—especially coming from the Southeastern Conference—we know Casey has seen elite competition before," he added.

With the second selection, San Francisco took slugging Georgia Tech catcher Joey Bart, the Atlantic Coast Conference player of the year.

Warriors chasing dynasty, third title in 4 years

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)— Stephen Curry and coach Steve Kerr's Golden State Warriors have repeatedly said they want to build something special for the long haul, to compete for championships year after year.

LeBron James considers his familiar NBA Finals opponent among the best teams ever.

Where the Warriors stack up if they win a third championship in four years will make for a dynasty debate. And their domination doesn't appear to be ending anytime soon, so if they keep winning Golden State will have its place in history.

"As a fan of the NBA, you could go down the list of the teams that won multiple years and just dominated the league for stretches of time," Curry said.

The Warriors are trying to join Bill Russell's Celtics, the Bulls led by Michael Jordan and the Lakers' trio of title runs fueled by George Mikan in the 1950s, Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in the `80s, and Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant nearly 20 years ago as the only franchises in NBA history to capture three championships in four years.

The Warriors are halfway there, holding a 2-0 lead against the underdog Cavs as the series shifts to Cleveland for Game 3 on Wednesday.

"Listen, Golden State is one of the best teams I've ever played. It's one of the best teams that's ever been assembled," said James, who is playing in his eighth straight NBA Finals and fourth in a row against Golden State.

Curry, sharp-shooting Klay Thompson, fiery Draymond Green and 2015 Finals MVP Andre Iguodala make up an All-Star-studded squad trying to repeat after James thwarted that quest two years ago when the Cavs stopped the defending champs. Kevin Durant bolted from Oklahoma City to join the cast last season.

"You look at it, they've got four Hall of Famers on their team in Klay, Dray, Steph and KD. They've got a Finals MVP that comes off their bench," James said in reference to Iguodala. "... I don't know where they will fall in my book, but they will have a nice chapter."

Not everybody is ready to crown the Warriors as a dynasty, not just yet anyway. Not even if they win the title this year.

"I don't like to go dynasty stuff, they've been the team of the decade," said Gary Payton, the longtime Seattle SuperSonics point guard who played 17 seasons through 2007. "That's what it is. They've been doing their thing. When we get into a dynasty is Michael Jordan and them winning six, that's a dynasty. The Golden State Warriors (would have) won three out of four, that's great.

"It's coming to be a dynasty. If you win a couple more, then you're talking about a dynasty. So three of them is in the right stage and the right movement to becoming a dynasty, yes."

AP

The Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant (35) attempts to block a shot from the Cleveland Cavaliers forward Kevin Love, center, while forward Jordan Bell helps out on defense during the first half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, June 3, 2018.

The defending champions are playing in a fourth straight finals chasing a repeat they couldn't pull off in 2016 after capturing the franchise's first title in 40 years during 2014-15 with Kerr as a rookie head coach.

TNT analyst and former player Charles Barkley wants nothing to do with dynasty talk regarding the Warriors.

"We don't have any dynasties. It's been a long time since we've had a dynasty," Barkley said. "The Bulls won six, the Spurs won five. We've had a lot of really good teams. I think the only dynasty is the Spurs. They've been great for 20 years. The Warriors are not going to win. Winning two in four years is not a dynasty."

Golden State would love nothing more than to continue building momentum as the franchise approaches the opening of its new San Francisco arena, Chase Center , in summer 2019 if all remains on schedule. That leaves one last season at Oracle Arena

B.J. Armstrong earned titles alongside Jordan with the Bulls from 1991-93. If the Warriors win another, they will join dynasty status in Armstrong's mind.

"They're right there," Armstrong said. "For them to have a sustained level of excellence like they've had, I don't take that for granted and I think anyone who's played or observed this game knows how difficult that is for one, let alone to be able to get here four times and have an opportunity to win three speaks for itself. ...

"If they win this one, they're right up there with all of the teams for a dynasty-type caliber situation up here in Golden State."

Curry was around for all the losing: 26 wins his rookie season of 2009-10, 23 two years later then gradually building to more victories each season thereafter.

He is proud to be part of a transformation—one the two-time MVP hopes they contend for titles for years to come.

"What we've been able to do here ... kind of taking a small step every year until 2015, winning our first championship, it is a sense of pride around that," Curry said. "Being the elder statesman here and seeing what has all gone into being on this stage every single year—when it comes to the guys that I get to suit up with every single night, from Bob Myers down to the coaching staff to the ownership—it's just a transformation that I got to see firsthand and all the details that went into it.

Familiarity breeds contempt, somewhat, at the NBA Finals

LeBron James is friends with Draymond Green, has worked out with Kevin Durant, speaks with great reverence for Stephen Curry and Steve Kerr.

They all do like each other.

And, to those watching the NBA Finals, that might be easy to forget at times.

Turns out, when the same franchises meet for the fourth consecutive year to decide the NBA championship, familiarity indeed does breed contempt. Tensions have been high at times in the first two games of this series, emotions have started to boil over on a couple of occasions, and that trend will likely be continuing until someone hoists the Larry O'Brien Trophy.

"Even with turnover from players, you have a continuity of management, continuity of culture in organizations," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. "There's the institutional memory there of the wins and the losses. And so, I think it is very meaningful and when you have the same teams that are meeting for the fourth time, it's part of a larger storyline. It's not just a one-off game or a one-off series."

Translated: Everyone should have seen this coming.

There was the dustup at the end of Game 1 when Cleveland's Tristan Thompson was angered by the Warriors' Shaun Livingston trying a jumper with the outcome already decided. There was Klay Thompson angered by the recklessness of J.R. Smith crashing into his leg early in the series opener. There was Kendrick Perkins jawing at Stephen Curry after the third quarter of Game 2.

The Warriors and the Cavaliers are certainly not lacking for intensity in these finals.

"Much ado about nothing," Curry said Sunday night, likely not the most completely honest statement of his career since it couldn't have been just a coincidence that he made all five of his 3-pointers in the next 8:33 to turn the game into a blowout.

Game 3 is in Cleveland on Wednesday night, with the Warriors up 2-0. Emotions will simmer until then.

"It's just basketball," Tristan Thompson said. "It's just a competitive sport. Of course we're going to get irritated with each other, just because we're both competitors and we both want it all. But it never goes off the court. Maybe for some guys it does, but not for me."

Rivalries are what make the sport great.

There was the Celtics-Lakers hatred of eras gone past. Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls and the Detroit Pistons otherwise known as the Bad Boys. Pat Riley, back in the day, used to forbid his Knicks and Heat teams from helping up opponents when they knocked them over and discouraged fraternizing with the enemy—ever, including the offseason.

Times have changed. Guys vacation together now. It's a new era.

"We're not holding hands and singing songs as friends," Curry said. "We're enjoying the competitive environment. I think that's the consistent thing between our two teams. Obviously we see each other twice a year during the regular season and then you wait until June. ... It's just about winning a championship. You don't want to let anything distract us from that on the floor."

Sometimes, the ribbing goes off the court.

James raised eyebrows when he showed up with a suit jacket and matching shorts for Game 1, then arrived at Game 2 with a similar look. Never missing a chance to get under someone's collar, Green showed up at Game 2 also in the jacket-shorts mode.

"Fun," Green said.

There's basketball beefs, and then there's real-world beefs. Someone tried to get Green to draw a parallel between the Warriors-Cavs animus and the recent musical rivalry between Pusha T and Drake.

He didn't bite.

"This is nothing like that, nothing at all like that," Green said.

Bears beat GSM, extend streak to five

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears are still undefeated in the second round of the regular season of the 2018 Saipan Baseball League after shutting down Go See Mark, 4-0, last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Bears now hold a 13-1 record after getting win No. 5 in Round 2 to keep the lead in the 10-team field. GSM continued its on and off performance in the second round as it absorbed its second loss at this juncture for an 11-3 mark.

Starting pitcher Virgil Secharmidal made life difficult for GSM, as he nearly threw a no-hitter in 6.2 innings of work. He gave up only one hit to GSM—a double from leadoff batter Franco Nakamura at the bottom of the third inning. Jose Lizama closed out for the Bears and also prevented GSM from scoring.

With Secharmidal and Jose Lizama on the mound for the Bears, GSM went only 3-for-29.

Henry, Jose, and A.J. Lizama had one RBI each, while the Bears' fourth run was scored by Fred Songao at the top of the eighth inning off GSM's error. Henry and A.J. also scored one run apiece at the top of the third inning, while leadoff batter Kiku put the Bears on the board in the first inning off Henry's single.

Meanwhile, defending champions Aces pounced on the Outlaws in last Thursday's game, 17-2.

The Aces got the win after only four and a half innings. The early victory was made possible by the Aces' back-to-back six-run inning in the second and third.

Before the reigning titlist broke away, the match was tied, 1-all, after one complete inning. Mike Iguel's single drove in second batter and his brother Lamarc at the bottom of the first inning. Juztin Mizutani, on the other hand, reached for the Outlaws off a passed ball at the bottom, while the team's last run was courtesy of Olympio Muna's single that brought home Wally Emul in the fourth inning.

The Aces improved to an 8-6 record, while the Outlaws are still winless in 13 games.

FIFA can afford to have Morocco host 2026 World Cup

ZURICH (AP)—FIFA can afford to have Morocco host the 2026 World Cup, according to President Gianni Infantino, even if the rival North American bid promises billions of dollars more in revenue.

Ahead of next week's vote by FIFA member federations in Moscow, Infantino said on Monday: "FIFA can afford whatever the congress decides."

"We have to live with that and to make the best of any decision which is taken," said the FIFA leader, who Moroccan bid leaders have publicly suspected of favoring the joint United States-Canada-Mexico bid.

In a FIFA panel's evaluation of the candidates, the North American bid got the only maximum mark for its tickets and corporate hospitality sales plan.

A difference in projected ticket sales of $1.3 billion between the two bids helped lead the report to note "significantly higher" forecast revenue of $14.3 billion from North Americans and $7.2 billion from Morocco.

"Money is one element (but) not the only element" in the report, Infantino said, revealing that FIFA will top $6 billion income during the four-year financial period for the 2018 World Cup.

The evaluation team also emphasized a significant overall risk posed by Morocco's plan to build or renovate all of its stadiums, almost all team training sites, and many hotels.

AP

In this file photo dated Thursday, April 12, 2018, FIFA President Gianni Infantino speaks during the annual conference of the South American Football Confederation, CONMEBOL, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Speaking about the upcoming vote to name the host country for the 2026 World Cup, Infantino insists he is impartial.

"What our task has been is to make sure the process is as objective, as clear as possible, and to highlight the pros and the cons of everything," Infantino said.

Up to 207 voting federations, many of whom rely on the $1.5 million annual grant promised by FIFA over the next four years, can ignore the panel's work.

Infantino would not be drawn on whether U.S. President Donald Trump's public comments could be a factor in the June 13 poll—either driving voters toward Morocco, or winning them with veiled threats of consequences for countries not supporting the American bid. FIFA will publish how federations voted.

"I hope when they vote they think what is best for football, definitely not on other subjective criteria that they might have for themselves," Infantino said.

FIFA is heavily focused on two future World Cups at its annual congress even before the 2018 tournament kicks off one day later.

Infantino will ask members for permission to open talks on adding 16 more teams to the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. Hosting 48 teams could mean sharing games with other Middle East nations to find up to four extra stadiums Qatar currently does not plan to build.

"Whether this is possible to be done only in Qatar, of course, is a question mark," Infantino acknowledged, adding Qatar was never formally asked to host a 48-team event alone.

Any consultation on the 2022 World Cup must reach a decision by FIFA's June 2019 congress, he said. The one-year deadline would begin during a blockade of Qatar begun one year ago by regional rivals including Saudi Arabia, who in that time have seemed more influential in FIFA's business.

"I think I have good relations with everyone in the (Gulf) region because I focus on football, and not on politics," Infantino said.

However, Infantino insisted his Club World Cup proposal—part of a $25 billion offer by unidentified investors to back new FIFA competitions—was "nothing to do with Saudi Arabia."

He said other investors have approached now it is known FIFA could enter a 12-year partnership with commercial interests to run the club event, and a global Nations League.

WARRIORS

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digit lead, 24-7. Henry Aguon scored 8 points in the first quarter to help the Warriors 1 gain control of the match.

The Law NMI Rollers, which dropped to a 1-9 record and is already out of the playoff picture, was limited to two field goals and three free throws in the opening canto and never managed to move closer to its opponent.

The losing squad still struggled offensively in the second quarter, scoring only 6 points, while Kobe Lifoifoi picked up where Aguon left off to hand the Warriors 1 a 37-13 halftime lead. Lifoifoi registered the Warriors 1's first 6 points in the second canto.

Then in the third period, Lifoifoi and Aguon teamed up in burying the Law NMI Rollers for an insurmountable lead, 64-20. Despite more than doubling its opponents output after three periods, the Warriors 1 showed no mercy in the fourth en route to the 48-winning margin.

The Ol'Aces Real Deal was also unforgiving against the hapless Chinatown Titans.

The unbeaten squad had the game in the bag right after the first half, posting acomfortable 51-17 advantage. Then when the game resumed, the Ol'Aces Real Deal continued to pound their opponents for a 79-28 lead. Coby Santos and Dean Blake combined for 18 points in the third quarter to widen the gap further.

Santos was still at it in the final canto and the rest of his teammates also hit their targets, while the Titans could not counter, making only three field goals in the fourth.

With the loss, the Titans fell to a 3-7 record and are in danger of not making it to the playoff round as the team remained at ninth place in the standings behind Saipan Vegas Elite (4-3).

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Nakamura, Tyron Omar, Lorenzo Sebaklim, Virgil Secharmidal, Anthony Tenorio, Patrick Tenorio Jr, Angel Palacios, and Shane Yamada.

Athletics has 17 delegates in Leani Acosta, Jerlyn Castillo, Mark Esablan, Robin Sapong, Antonio Ichiou, Therize Millare, Neo Ngirchongor, Ronald Olopai, Jamie Pangelinan, Traven Quitugua, Dolore Rangamar, Zarinae Sapong, Tyler Santos, Gabriel Skerei, and Edward Temengil.

Basketball has two teams made up of players Rachael Abrams, Cassandra Camacho, Tasha Deleon Guererro, Alliyah Fernandez, Jaime Mendoza, Lalaine Pagarao, Ira Palero, Lia Rangamar, Annalei, and Eleina Santos, Jan Travilla, and Glorily Williams of the women's side; and Aiferson Atan, Dan Barcinas, Prestong Basa, Dean Blake, Jeff Deleon Guerrero, Kelvin Fitial, Kelvin Jack Kabiriel, Christian Mizer, Marvin Rabauliman, Coby Santos, Douglas Schmidt, and N-Nes Siech of the men's crew. The teams coaches are Elias Rangamar, Connie Camacho, and John Reyes, while referee Ric Manzano will join the group in Yap.

Canoe also has men's and women's squads. Justin Andrew will call the shots for the women's team, which is made up of Lorenza Aldan, Arielle Buyum, Mayiah Duenas, Kristine Falig, Shelli Neal, Maria Ornes, Victoria Saures, and Elizabeth Tenorio. Ed Johnson is the assistant coach for the women's crew, while the men's team has paddlers Joshua Andrew, Bobby Cruz, William Grow II, Maverick Itibus, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, James Lee, Jose Quan, Richard Villagomez, Dino Manning, and Jasong Tarkong with the last two also doubling as coaches.

For volleyball, only the men's teams will compete. The squad has Danilo Borlain, Don Cabrera, Ryan Camacho, John Costales, Misaki Cramer, Nick Gross, Alfredo Gueverra, Eric Kiser, Logan Mister, Nak Nakashima, John Nekaifes, Mychal Omar, Jerrett Rosario, Tahj Salas, and coach Shawn Davis.

Swimming listed 11, including coach Jacoby Winkfield and another official Keanna Villagomez.. Siblings Kento and Taiyo Akimaru, brothers Jinnosuke and Lennosuke Suzuki, Nelson Batallones, Sophia Gauran, Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, David Boyer, and Juhn Tenorio will race in the ocean swim.

Weighlifting and table tennis teams registered less than 10 athletes and officials. Table tennis has official Ted Deleon Guerrero and players Iek Hyun Ahn, Mario Espeleta, Budhi Gurung, Fuliang Liu, Aeja Park, Young Soon Roh, Jean Shi, and Denglian Zhang. Weighlifting president John Davis Jr. leads their delegation, which also include Rodrigo Ada, Bonny Cruz, Antonette Labausa, Angel San Nicolas, and Joseph Tudela.

Completing the CNMI delegates are administrators White and Rose Igitol and chef de mission Tony Yarobwemal. Spearfishing has initially committed to send athletes to the Micro Games, but has yet to turn in its roster.

Meanwhile, teams sending athletes and officials to Yap are expected to attend tomorrow's

CNMI

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court today, which I'm proud of. I'm happy with our results in the first Nations Cup," Heras told *Saipan Tribune*.

For her part, though unbeaten, Lee said every match was tough, especially the last one.

"We had to be tough physically and mentally, of course. We were ready to go in the court and fight for the victory. Unfortunately, Isabel lost against Eleanor, but that does not mean it was the end for us," Lee told *Saipan Tribune* in a separate interview yesterday.

"When the deciding doubles came we were both ready to fight for it. Sometimes we got nervous playing against them, but we communicate a lot and showed good teamwork," she added.

Meanwhile, CNMI national coach Jeff Race had all praises to the team after conquering the tournament.

"It was a fantastic victory against Samoa. Carol just beat a veteran player in Steffi, while Isabel has improved a lot in the doubles play. Conatsu also had good results in the pool play. We're proud of what our girls have accomplished in Fiji, as well as our boys team," the CNM Sports Hall of Famer said.

Ken Song, Robbie Schorr, and Jimin Woo made it to the Top 10 in the men's field after winning over Fiji Development Team in the pool play and against Tonga in the playoffs.

Tahiti and Vanuatu were battling for the division championship yesterday and the complete results of the finals were unavailable at press time. Tahiti took the first singles when Angelo Yersin defeated Leniker Thomas, 6-3, 6-1. Heve Kelley dueled Clement Mainguy in the other singles match, while the opposing teams' two singles players would have also met in the doubles event, if needed.

3rd President's Cup

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants and supporters in last Saturday's 3rd President's Cup pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the Saipan Soccer School-organized tournament at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

Matansa FC players and officials pose with their medals after topping the co-ed U9 division of the competition held to celebrate the birthday of Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, third left back row.

Kanoa U13's Markus Toves, right, joins NMIFA president Jerry Tan for a photo after winning the Golden Boot award in the division.

Shirley's FC players and their coaches gather for a group photo after earning the first place medals in the co-ed U13B division.

TanHoldings FC president Eli Arago, standing left, join their U11 players and club officials for a group photo after receiving their first place medals.

NMIFA president Jerry Tan, left, congratulates Golden Boot awardee Jerlyn Castillo of Shirley's FC.

Kanoa U13A players and coach Krizel Tuazon, standing fourth left, pose for a photo after topping their group.

TanHoldings players receive the first place medals in the boys U15/girls U16 age group.

No showdown: Serena pulls out due to injury

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Sports

Warriors chasing dynasty, third title in 4 years

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CNMI rules Nations Cup

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee, seen here getting ready to serve against Hong Kong's Wing Ka Lin in last month's Juniors ITF event at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan court, led the CNMI to a 2-1 title win over Samoa in the Inaugural Nations Cup Pacific yesterday in Fiji.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI made history in Fiji, as it was named the first champion in the women's division of the Nations Cup Pacific yesterday.

The Commonwealth slipped past the Steffi Carruthers-led Samoa in the finals, 2-1, to reign supreme in the 12-nation tournament. Carruthers is a pro player and was joined on the squad by Eleanor Schuster, while the CNMI had junior players Carol Lee, Isabel Heras, and Conatsu Kaga on its fold.

Lee and Carruthers were teammates with the Pacific Oceania Fed Cup squad, but the junior player was all business when she faced the 25-year-old Samoan in the first singles match. The 16-year-old Lee won in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1 to move the CNMI a win away from topping the inaugural contest.

However, Schuster kept Samoa's hopes alive when she prevailed against Heras in the second singles match, 6-1, 6-3.

Heras, who also dropped her singles matches in the semis and in the last game in pool play only to redeem herself in the doubles, did it again as she and Lee topped Carruthers and Schuster in the title-clinching match, 6-2, 6-2.

Heras was relieved after the win over their talented opponents.

"The doubles game was challenging because our opponents are great tennis players. But Carol and I managed to be the better tennis players on the

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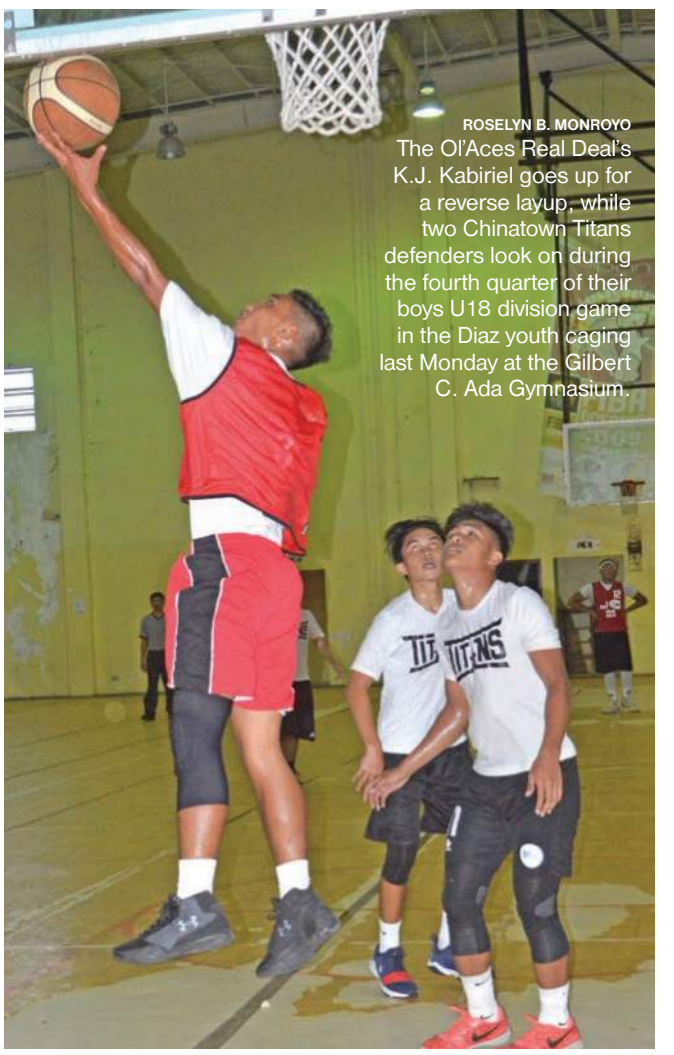
Warriors 1, Ol'Aces Real Deal rout foes



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces Real Deal's K.J. Kabiriel goes up for a reverse layup, while two Chinatown Titans defenders look on during the fourth quarter of their boys U18 division game in the Diaz youth caging last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces Real Deal reached past the century mark to crush Chinatown Titans, 107-36, while the NSA Warriors 1 also walloped the Law NMI Rollers, 84-36, in the boys U18 division games in the 2018 Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol'Aces Real Deal now has a 10-0 record, one win away from sweeping the round-robin regular season, while the NSA Warriors 1 finished the elimination with a 7-4 record and is likely to place in the Top 4 going into the eight-team playoffs.

The Warriors 1 was impressive in its last game in the elims after building an early double-

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138 CNMI delegates to Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association has registered the names of the CNMI delegates to next month's 9th Micronesian Games in Yap.

A total of 138 athletes and officials made up the initial list and NMSA president Michael White is calling on teams to review the roster for addition or exclusion as soon as possible. Yap has set a June 15 deadline for registration of all delegations, while the Micro Games will run from July 15 to 27.

Baseball has the most delegates with 29, including officials Manny Sablan, Ray Palacios, Mabel Ngirngemelas, Tony Rogolifoi, Patrick Tenorio Sr., and Mike Cruz. Completing the group are players Pat Alepuyo, Brian and Nathan Camacho, Roy Celis, Jose and Kelvin Deleon Guerrero, Franco and Jonah Flores, Ben Jones Jr., Byron Kaipat, Frankie Lieto, Frankie, A.J., and Henry Lizama, Franko

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Some of the members and officials of the CNMI Baseball Team pose for a group photo last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. The photo was sent to Yap for posting on the website of the 9th Micronesian Games.